

RECREATION

Formerly THE PLAYGROUND

— April 1936 —

A Puppet Trailer

By L. Gordon Thomas

Planning the Easter Party

Youth Week on a Newark Playground

By Victor J. Di Filippo

Playing in the Parks of New York

By James V. McMahon

Summer Playgrounds of 1935 in Action!

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Dictatorship

FROM day to day now we encounter men we otherwise respect who speak with longing of the order, happiness, internal peace, unity, power for progress which they feel is being achieved in other lands under dictators.

Under modern dictatorships national recreation systems can apparently be achieved overnight. We have always known that the King of Siam could by royal decree say—"Let there be music and drama and laughter, let every one everywhere sing and dance and take part in amateur dramatics, let every one play baseball"—and it was done. But not until recently have individuals dared to suggest that such a type of national planning was attractive to them for their own United States.

In our country we have always been in a hurry. We have not wanted to wait. The speed of making people happy through dictatorship, national or local, has a subtle appeal to the American temperament.

For myself I would rather rot than be *forced* to be happy, to grow, to enjoy music, to live in a world of beauty, to be one of a united contented people.

Democracy is more precious in the realm of happiness, of recreation, of growth, of art, of beauty than in any other world.

I want at least to appear to choose my own ends, my own ideals.

Important as is democracy in government, in economics, in industry—nowhere is it so important as in *fun in living* itself. I do not want any other human being telling me what I am to enjoy, what music I am to dance to, what jokes I am to laugh at, what poems, what books are to command me.

I would rather wander forty million years in the wilderness than to see progress, happiness, growth, achieved by force.

What is true nationally is true in the locality. Though poor standards will never permanently satisfy, though there must ever be for youth exposure to the highest and the best that have stood the tests of time—yet at any given period in any given community there is no gain in attempting by force to establish standards of taste in recreation which meet no answering response in the community. Give any community time and gradually it will come to appreciate the best. But until then and always let the community "be itself." No one who believes in *forcing* individuals or communities is qualified to be a recreation leader.

HOWARD BRAUCHER.

APRIL 1936

As April's Slipping On By



Photo by U. S. Forest Service

There are the hills and there are the valleys,
And there are the running streams;
And there are the rocks where the deep brook rallies
And whirls through a land of dreams;
And I like to look at the young trees growing
Or turn to the wide, blue sky;
And there isn't much else that I feel's worth knowing
As April's slipping on by.

—Grantland Rice

Playing in the Parks of New York

"**M**ORE participants and a larger number of spectators." This brief report from the Department of Parks, New York City, is indicative of the tremendous interest in the recreational activities conducted by the Department—an interest which has never before been so great as in the past year.

"And why not?" might well be the response of the interested onlooker who has seen the special events which the department arranged during 1935.

Outdoor Dancing

There was a program of social dancing on the Mall in Central Park—perhaps the most popular of all the special activities. The announcement was made by the Park Department that the experiment was going to be made of conducting social dances twice a week on the Mall. On the first night there was an attendance of 2,000 dancers and 4,000 spectators. "It can't be done," said the pessimists who were sure the difficulties of supervising and controlling such large numbers of dancers would be insuperable. "You will have improper dancing, and the dances will attract rowdies and undesirable people."



By JAMES V. MULHOLLAND
Superintendent of Recreation
Department of Parks
New York City

There are activities to suit every taste in the play program which is being promoted in the parks of America's largest city

But those in charge of the activities were fully cognizant of the fact that this experimental activity, to reflect credit on the Park Department, must be conducted according to the highest standards. Accordingly twenty-five playground directors were put in charge,

and the following rules and regulations were laid down: Girls were not to be permitted to dance together; only couples would be allowed in the dance area; men must wear coats; the dance area must be cleared at the end of every dance; the dance must end with a waltz; no cutting in would be permitted and no improper dancing allowed.

There was a reason for every one of these rules, and although there was considerable discussion as to the value of some of them, the success of the dancing program testified to their efficacy. So popular did the Mall dances become that soon there were requests for social dancing in neighborhood parks. It was impossible to comply with all these requests because of the fact that not enough orchestras were available from WPA. The department did, however, extend the program to five or six other centers. During the winter months indoor dances were conducted in the field houses of the parks.

A Portable Farmyard

Then came an amazing, almost incredible venture—a portable farmyard! Playground directors had reported that many children of congested districts had never seen farm animals such as cows, calves, goats, pigs, ducks and turkeys. This would never do, the Park Department decided, and so plans were made to construct a barn on wheels and to truck this barn to the various playgrounds in congested neighborhoods. The barn was built with a runway and portable fencing, and the animals were permitted to remain in an area adjoining a playground for a period of three days. A former stableman of the Department of Parks was assigned as caretaker or "farmer" and one of the playground directors played the part of the farmer's daughter.

Many children learned for the first time just what certain animals look like. They saw the process of milking a cow and made the surprising discovery that the eggs which they ate at home came from chickens. There are many interesting stories told in connection with this farmyard. Perhaps one of the most interesting is that of the boy who pretended that he wanted to find his ball inside the farmyard, and when allowed to go inside, suddenly reappeared with an egg which one of the chickens had just laid.

It was also found that adults, particularly those who had spent a large part of their lives in the country or who were natives of some foreign land, were greatly interested and would stand for an hour watching the antics of the animals.

More Portables!

A portable theater also attracted much attention. Actors and actresses from the Service Division of the WPA were assigned to give performances at night for adults. Such plays as "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "A Midsummer Night's Dream," "Brother Mose," "The Rivals," "Tommy," "Earthly Paradise," and such Gilbert and Sullivan operettas as "The Pirates of Penzance" and "Pinafore" were given. These productions attracted audiences of from 2,000 to 5,000 persons, depending upon the neighborhood and the facilities. A schedule was arranged so that this portable theater could visit many of the larger parks in the city.

The activities mentioned in this article are only a few of the special events promoted by the Department of Parks. Routine tournaments in basketball, field hockey, softball, soccer, football, checkers, jacks and similar activities are conducted in the appropriate seasons. Finals in these contests attract much attention. The Department's band usually officiates at championship events.

Portable puppet and marionette shows and a traveling troupe for the playgrounds were organized for the entertainment of the children.

Events on the Mall

In arranging the recreation program consideration was given to the recreational desires, interests and needs of the neighborhood, the interests of the various races, and the ages of the participants. Their interests were found to be varied, and accordingly a broad recreational program was arranged for all the playgrounds and parks of the city. There was need, it was discovered, of having one place in each borough where special events could be held for a large group. Arrangements were accordingly made to have a special event on the Mall in Central Park each night of the week. Two nights were given over to social dancing, one to drama, and four nights to concerts. This year there were larger audiences at the concerts than ever before. This was due perhaps to the fact that the general public had come to know that there was something special taking place in the larger parks each night of the week and they could walk or ride to the places where these events were held instead of spending their leisure time at the movies or in idleness.

Some of the events at Central Park were a Venetian water carnival, a harvest festival, a dance festival and an American ballad contest.

American Ballad Contest

The ballad contest attracted considerable attention. Eliminations were conducted in each of the boroughs, the finals being held on the Mall with fourteen quartets competing. All members of the contesting quartets were dressed in garments of the last decade of the nineteenth century and the Mall was appropriately decorated as an old-time barber shop. Definite rules were issued regarding the songs to be sung and the methods of judging. Some of the selections which were sung were

"There's a Tavern in the Town," "Drink to Me Only with Thine Eyes," "Oh, Evelina," "I've Been Workin' On the Railroad," "Wait 'Til the Sun Shines, Nellie," "My Mandy," "Way Down Yonder in the Corn Field," and "Kentucky Babe."

Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia and Commissioner Robert

Moses were the honorary judges; other judges included ex-Governor Alfred E. Smith, Luther C. Steward and Sigmund Spaeth. The head barber was Monsieur Henri Grechen of the Hotel Brevoort who is famous as a tonsorial artist. For years Mark Twain visited his barber shop and would only permit Monsieur Grechen to act as his barber. There was an attendance of approximately 20,000 persons at this American ballad contest.

A "Non-Stop" Program

The recreation program of the Department of Parks of New York covers the winter months as well as the other seasons. There are such events as a winter sports carnival, Christmas festivals, one act plays, and snow sculpture contests. One week before Christmas, Christmas festivals were arranged in many of the larger parks. In Central Park the Mall

A section of the audience at one of the very popular song contests on the Mall

was appropriately decorated and lighted, and a Christmas show was arranged to take place during the mornings and afternoons. The program of this show consisted of an address by Santa Claus, acts by Minnie and Mickey Mouse, the Three Bears, a magician, and clowns and Brownies. These shows proved very successful.

During the winter months the department organized a traveling troupe consisting of a magician, clowns and a demonstration by Jiggs and Anna, two chimpanzees dressed appropriately in winter sports costume. They rode a bicycle, ate at a table, tumbled and did other stunts. These shows lasted approximately an hour and were given in the field houses of the various parks.

The Department of Parks believes in "non-stop," all-year playgrounds and operates its facilities 365 days of the year. Thus it secures continuity of interest and greater attendance at all of the activities.

A Few of the Activities Planned for 1936

Among the activities planned for 1936 are the following:

Snow sculpture contests and winter sports carnivals—January and February (City-wide contests)

Roller hockey tournament—February and March
(An intra-playground or local tournament for boys 19 years of age and under)

Activities of the Junior Park Protective League—February, March, April and May
(A composition contest with five compositions from each borough eligible for competition and award, and a poster contest on the same basis)

Basketball tournament—February and March
(Limited to representative teams from the public gym-



nasiums under the jurisdiction of the Park Department. The program will consist of intra-gymnasium tournaments for men and women over 18 years of age)

Gymnasium demonstrations—February
(Team games, group games, gymnastics, apparatus, tumbling, stunts, and club work)

Stunt contest—February and March
(A local event conducted on the playgrounds)

Soccer football—February and March
(A district tournament organized in the local boroughs for boys under 16 years of age)

Outdoor basketball tournament—March and April
(A city-wide tournament for boys under 16 years of age. Medals awarded)

Handball tournament, singles and doubles—March and April
(This tournament is scheduled for boys under 16 years of age and also for boys from 16 to 21 years of age)

(Continued on page 41)

"Let's Make Something"

THE AGE OLD desire to create has led Salt Lake City to incorporate a new handcraft venture in the summer playground program.

Comparatively simple woodcraft and metal craft projects have been an integral part of the boys' summer program for a great many years, but the lack of proper facilities, equipment and tools has been a decidedly limiting factor. Advanced projects requiring powered machinery and a great variety of tools have been for the most part an impossibility. Some of the larger centers have been fairly well equipped and supervised but the smaller centers have usually been cared for by itinerant instructors with portable tool kits.

The need for more intensive handcraft programs during vacation months was solved last summer when the Board of Education turned over to the Recreation Department the manual training shops of all the junior high schools for use during the summer months. This concession on the part of the Board was granted on one condition, which was that the instructor in charge during the school year should be made responsible for the summer program. Lost or stolen equipment was, of course, to be replaced by the Recreation Department, but the presence of the regular instructor promised to make this expense a negligible item.

The school instructors greeted the plan favorably when it was discussed with them. A preliminary

Salt Lake City's Board of Education and the Recreation Department cooperate in a crafts project for boys.

By RAY FORSBERG
Superintendent of Recreation
Salt Lake City, Utah

survey in all the schools of the city indicated that there were over 1,000 boys interested in registering for

the experimental summer courses.

A fee of 50 cents was decided upon for the weekly classes to be held on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Each class was to be

three hours in length, lasting from 9:00 A. M. to 12:00 noon, and was to be divided into two equal periods—one for beginners and one for advanced students. One-half of the fee of 50 cents was to be used for the purchase of minor supplies such as glue, brads and jig-saw blades, and the other half was to be paid the instructor as a bonus salary.

Approximately 600 boys registered for the course, or an average of almost 100 boys at each of the centers. This represented practically a capacity load at each center. Every type of woodcraft article was made. Simple materials were furnished by the department but the boys making larger articles furnished their own materials. Wrought iron and tin can articles were made in the metal craft shops adjoining the woodcraft centers. Boy Scouts availed themselves of the opportunity to secure merit badges.

Everything considered the experiment was gratifying. Next summer a more extensive program along the same line will be attempted, and the department feels sure that another example of cooperative effort between school officials and the Recreation Department will be successful.



Summer Playgrounds of 1935 in Action!

IN REPORTING on last summer's playground program one activity stands out as universally popular. In large cities and small communities handcraft—"making things"—stood highest in the estimation of playground participants.

First of All—Handcraft

Handcraft projects used on the summer playgrounds maintained by the Playground and Recreation Association of Wyoming Valley fitted in with the Early American theme which was woven into the entire program. These included furniture making, a doll house project, hooked rugs, tin can dishes, bead work and Indian craft, and mario-nette making. The construction of sun shades out of cardboard and wallpaper was a favorite project for hot afternoons. Bracelets were made from ice cream quart cylinders covered with yarn, while waste paper baskets were created from gallon ice cream containers covered with wallpaper.

Although handcraft tools on the Oklahoma City park playgrounds were limited to a hammer, a coping saw, tin snips, scissors, and a few paint brushes, countless articles were created during the summer months and a program was carried on in soap, wood, clay, tin, wire, paper, glass, cloth and cardboard. Prominent store windows were filled with articles every few weeks during the summer giving thousands of residents a chance to see what was going on in the parks. Each park was supplied with at least one specialist in handcraft. In addition, a member of the recreation staff visited the parks giving detailed information on the construction of certain projects. A well-known Oklahoma artist and sculptor was engaged to give instructions in soap and wood carving, and clay modeling. The season closed with a city-wide exhibit held in one of the city's largest high school buildings at which almost 3,000 products were displayed. Winners in the various classifications were awarded ribbons by the Recreation Com-

Through the assistance of workers associated with ERA, WPA and other governmental agencies, the summer playground season of 1935 was an unusually active one, with greater participation and a broader program than many cities have ever experienced. We report here on a few of the many activities carried on. There may be suggestions here for your next summer's program.

mittee of the Chamber of Commerce.

Ham string belts were a popular handcraft venture for both boys and girls on the summer playgrounds of Salt Lake City, Utah. The belts are made by tying square knots in ham string, which makes an idea cord for the purpose. It is wide, flat, is not shiny, and makes belts heavy enough for boys but

sufficiently "dressy" for girls. It may be purchased in assorted colors. Thirty-eight yards of string make a 32 inch belt tied loosely on an inch and a half buckle with twelve strings. The two outside cords (double) are cut eight yards long; the four inside strings are cut in lengths of five yards, six inches. The string for a 32 inch belt costs approximately 8 cents.

The Hawaiian leis made by children proved valuable additions to the Recreation Department's costume shop.

In making the leis a roll of crepe paper is cut in strips one inch thick. (It is advisable to use a paper cutter so that all edges will be exact.) Nine one-inch strips are needed for one lei. Thread a thin long needle with a piece of number 20 thread about one yard long. Tie a heavy knot in the end. With small running stitches sew down the center of the crepe paper. With the fingers push the crepe paper along the thread, gathering it tight. With one hand hold the knot end and with the other twist the gathered paper around and around so that a one inch cable of paper is made. The straighter the stitches down the center of the crepe paper and the tighter the paper is gathered, the more attractive the lei.

Another handcraft project popular in the older girls' and women's handcraft classes was wood fiber flowers. Beautiful corsages, head bands, potted plants and flowers were made from wood fiber, which may be washed. Materials cost approximately 20 cents for the flowers which make ideal Christmas gifts.



Each summer sees an increase in the number of chess players on the public playgrounds of Milwaukee

In spite of the fact that not more than \$3.00 was expended on material, there were 640 articles on view at the annual handcraft exhibit held in Oak Park, Illinois, on All Sports Day. The materials used included scrap lumber, all donated, plaster of Paris, clay fabric, crepe paper, raffia, tin, oilcloth, and wool. Such novel materials were used as dried peas for jewel cases, a beef bone to serve as a flower holder, and tin for masks and jewelry. A special award went to the play leader whose playground submitted the largest and most interesting display.

Something New in Contests

For the past two years children of the municipal playgrounds of Milwaukee have delighted in playing chess. Last summer on 16 of the city's 65 playgrounds 1,068 children were enrolled in the classes—an increase of more than 18 percent over the 1934 registration. Because of the cost of the equipment for the game, the children made their own chessmen in the handcraft periods from the spools on which camera films were wound, with pasteboard or wooden chessmen inserted in the slit in the spools. A contest open to boys and girls of all ages was held in the making of these sets. Requirements were that the sets must be completely handmade, no turning lathe work being permitted, and that they must be made in part on the playground. It was necessary for a playground to have ten entrants in order to have a contest. Sets were judged on the basis of workmanship, originality, use of waste material and practicability. The winner of each contest was

Music

The Playground and Recreation Association of Wyoming Valley, Wilkes-Barre, conducted a most interesting music program centering, as did the handcraft activities, around the Early American theme which carried through the entire playground program last summer. Each playground organized a glee club for boys and girls, and a music week was scheduled for the week of August 8th when all of the grounds gave a community concert. The songs which received special attention were the following:

Appalachian Ballads—Sourwood Mountain; Old Gray Mare; Pop Goes the Weasel
Mining Ballads—The Door Boys' Last Goodby; When the Mines Start Up Full Time
Southern Melodies—Were You There? (Spiritual); Old Black Joe; Carry Me Back to Old Virginia
Sea Shanties—Shenandoah; Cape Cod
Cowboy Songs—Home on the Range; Old Faithful; Last Round Up
Pennsylvania German—Ach Ja; I Love Little Willie; Broom Dance
Flemish—Rosa Let Us Be Dancing
Irish—Galway Piper

A splendid children's band was organized consisting of young musicians all under fifteen years of age. A band for children of high school age was also organized. A leader was provided through FERA, and the Y.M.C.A. gave the association free of charge for rehearsals the use of the auditorium of the old building.

Drama

Handcraft has joined hands with drama on many a playground, and last summer children in a number of communities made marionettes and puppets and with them gave puppet shows.

In one city each playground selected a fairy story, an historical event or an original story, and the marionettes were made accordingly. The three best groups were picked for Saturday afternoon matinees. The plays selected for the first week were "The Seven Dwarfs," "Hansel and Gretel" and "Out of the History Book."

Thirty-seven different plays were given last summer by the children of the Oak Park, Illinois, playgrounds who presented fifty-two performances. Throughout the program the children were encouraged to help in making costumes and designing sets. In one instance a group of boys not only wrote the play but directed it. The plays have been given on an average of every three weeks throughout the year at the playground theaters, as well as before outside groups. The cyclorama, proscenium arch and front curtains, all portable, have more than proved their worth. There is always a waiting list for every play. At one playground an announcement of a forthcoming play brought out forty applicants for parts.

A Model Aircraft Project

Fifteen hundred boys and girls in Santa Clara County, California, are actively participating in a model building program inaugurated last August by the San Jose Recreation Department. With the cooperation of the *Mercury-Herald*, one of the city's daily papers, the department organized the Junior Air Corps of Santa Clara County. About 50 percent of the membership is composed of boys and girls of junior high school age.

Airdromes have been established at ten recrea-

tion centers in the city with an instructor in charge. The squadrons meet twice a week for a two hour period of building after school. In addition to the city dromes, about twenty-five dromes have been established in the county through the cooperation of the Santa Clara County School Department. The instructor of the drome is called the drome commander and he aids the pilots with problems of construction. Planes of every size, shape, design, color and type are made by the cadets, and exhibits and air meets are held about once a month. A series of ranks has been initiated from junior cadet at the bottom to chief ace, with a system of points to gain promotion.

Each drome has one formal meeting a week directed by the commander-in-chief of the Junior Air Corps. An interesting program is arranged for the formal meeting consisting of reports from squadron commanders, a talk on some interesting phase of aeronautics by the commander-in-chief, and the publishing of all orders concerning future activities of the corps. A list of promotions is read, and once each month the pilots hold an informal social gathering with refreshments.

The *Mercury-Herald*, co-sponsor of the corps with the Recreation Department, cooperates by publishing a Junior Air Corps column in each Sunday's edition of the paper. This column consists of news from the various airdromes, the results of meets and exhibits, and other interesting features. It also provides kits and books on model building as awards.

In Chicago's park centers are many boys who are skilled in the art of building and flying model airplanes



That Closing Festival

The Playground and Recreation Association of Wyoming Valley brought its ten weeks' playground season to a close with a pageant called "An American Folk Festival." The program included songs and dances of the Early American period with one episode showing dances of some of the foreign countries whose peoples have come to America. Approximately 1,500 children participated.

"Sleeping Beauty" was the theme of the sixth annual playground pageant presented by the Lansing, Michigan, Recreation Department, in which 500 children and a few adults took part. Powerful flood lights were played on the various scenes against a realistic background, the dominant feature of which was a reproduction of an old castle in a wood. The changing seasons were represented by dances. One of the most novel scenes was the toy shop in which the children in fantastic costumes emerged from the shop going through the motions of mechanical toys.

Miscellaneous Activities

Every second week during the summer season a general play day and community evening was held on each playground conducted by the Des Moines, Iowa, Playground and Recreation Commission. On this day the directors made a special effort to have everyone in the neighborhood come to the playgrounds during the afternoon and evening and take part in some activity. The event usually culminated in a picnic dinner, community singing, a program of talent from the community, and a concert by the playground band and movies. The attendance on these days averaged from 200 to 800. The total attendance for last season was 35,149.

Boys with a "yen" to become cowboys were given the opportunity to learn the art of roping last summer when a city-wide roping contest was conducted on twenty-five Los Angeles, California, municipal playgrounds. The contest, open to all boys under twelve years of age in the junior class and all under sixteen in the senior, consisted of competition in fancy and trick roping, with instructions in the art of making, twirling and throwing the lariat by a well-known champion roper. After five weeks of instruction in learning to perform ten roping tricks, local and city-wide contests were held, with finals on August 2nd at the Gilmore Stadium. Six boys, three juniors and three seniors, who came out highest in the finals

were given a two weeks' vacation at a famous ranch.

Last summer the Bureau of Recreation of Philadelphia conducted for the first time intra-center whistling contests. Fifteen hundred and sixty-five boys and girls took part in this successful event.

Though for nine years the children of the Oak Park playgrounds have had a playground circus, last year for the first time an audience was invited to see the performance. Two thousand people greeted the bareback riders, animals, trapeze artists, athletes, clowns, musicians and dancers, who to the number of 150 boys and girls took part in the program. In addition to the circus proper, there was a pantomime drill in which 150 more children took part. The costumes of white, silver and black were particularly striking against the large lighted field. The pantomime drill and dances, representing the various phases of the recreation program, were presented by a group of boys and girls ranging in age from six to eighteen years.

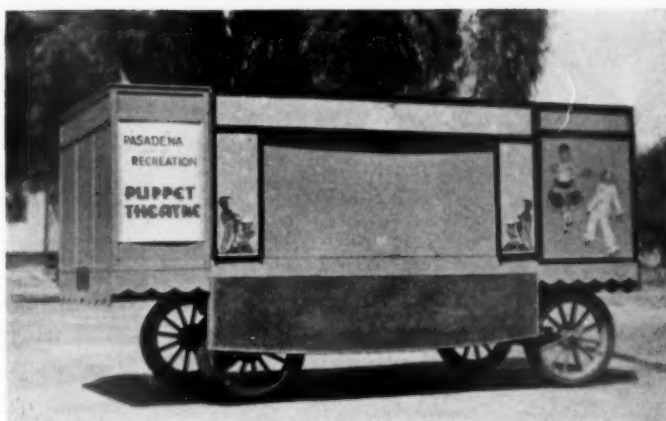
Amateur boxing on the playgrounds of Oklahoma City thrilled 3,000 spectators each week last summer. The City Park Department sponsored and supervised the program, which was very successful. A regulation ring well equipped with rings and canvas floor cover was constructed in 1934, and several boxing programs were held that year. The 1935 program, however, had an early start which was productive of even greater results. More than a hundred boys met daily during the entire season for their workouts. Each Friday night ten or twelve short bouts were scheduled, most of them among the smaller boys from 65 pounds to 134. The smaller and less experienced boys entered the ring with gloves ranging from eight to ten ounces according to their ability. Great care was taken never to overmatch a boy or to allow him to take too much of a beating. Three one-minute rounds were the most popular.

Interest was intense throughout the season, and good officiating and promotion prevented any unpleasant occurrences. At the close of the season a city-wide tournament was held.

Kite flying tournaments are a part of the playground program of the Seattle Park Department. There were three divisions in the 1935 contest: "A" for kites with a strong pull, winners to be determined by the pull registered on a spring scale; "B" for well decorated and graceful kites, and "C" for kite races for boys 12 years old or under.

A Puppet Trailer

Wherever there's a road there's a way now to stage marionette shows in Pasadena, California!



By L. GORDON THOMAS
Supervisor of Special Projects
Pasadena Recreation Department

CONFRONTED with a school reconstruction problem that withdrew from use many auditoriums and assembly halls, the Pasadena Department of Recreation recently put in service a puppetry stage mounted on a trailer.

The stage is completely equipped with front curtain, lights controlled by a miniature switchboard and fixtures for the handling of stage settings. The "bridge" for the puppeteers is as adequate as any that could be installed on a regular stage. The trailer was built on a Model "T" Ford chassis donated by a friend of the Recreation Department.

The interesting "rolling theater" is but one of the features of an expanded program of puppetry club work in Pasadena. Made possible by the discovery of talented men and women in the ranks of unemployment relief workers, scores of marionettes have been constructed to perform as actors in famous children's plays. Complete settings for these plays have been built.

A summer puppetry club attracted fifty children and adults for three sessions each week. The closing recital of club members presented fifty-two new puppets in a variety performance attended by parents and friends.

Some Details of Construction

Chassis—A Model "T" Ford, Star, or similar chassis with straight frame is amply strong and very suitable.

Floor and Foundation—A flat floor 6' x 13' is built on the frame of the chassis to provide the necessary room for props, equipment, and space for the bridge on which the manipulators stand, and a part of the stage.

To make the floor, bolt four bolsters, 4" x 4" x 3' crosswise, evenly spaced, directly on the frame. On top of these lay two stringers 2" x 6" x 13',

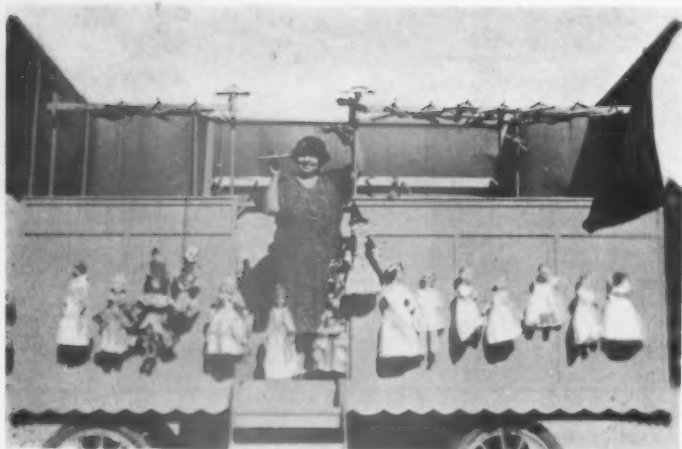
notched on the underside to fit over the top of the bolsters, and bolt securely to the bolsters at a point that will be about twenty inches from the outside edge of floor. Over the stringers place seven floor supports or joists, 2" x 6" x 6' notched on under side to fit over the stringers, spaced evenly and bolted crosswise on to the stringers. The matched or TG flooring is laid lengthwise directly on the joists.

Stringers and floor joists notched to give rigidity to the frame, also make it possible to maintain a desirable distance of 3' 4" from ground to top of floor, on a chassis of the type mentioned.

Superstructure—The sides of the superstructure are made of three-ply wood, which comes in 4' width. The ply wood is firmly attached by metal brackets or braces to the floor, but is on the outside of the edge of the floor and extends 4" below the top of the floor, so that the top is 3' 8" above the floor.

On the front or stage side of the trailer leave an opening in the superstructure 8 feet wide, and in the back provide a hinged door or entrance for manipulators, 2' 3" wide. Finish off the bottom of the sides with a scalloped skirting made of the ply wood, about 8 inches wide, except for the 8 feet directly below the stage opening. This skirting should be screwed to the ends of the floor joists and divided into sections that can be taken off readily to facilitate removal of wheels when necessary.

Above the permanent ply wood structure, curtain material is used to enclose all, except the



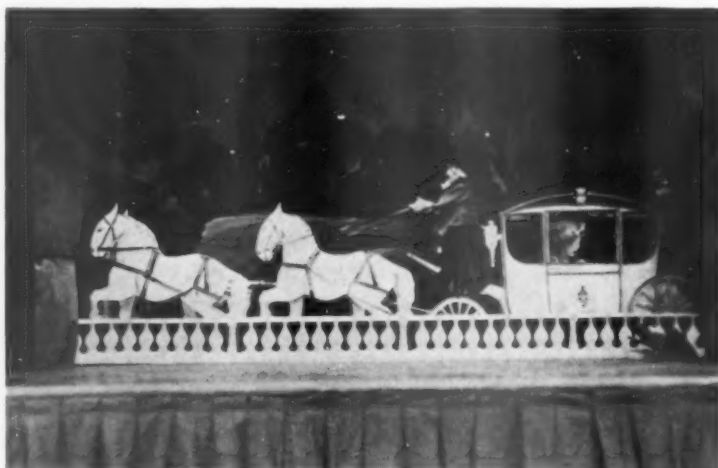
A glimpse behind the scenes at some of the puppets and their manipulator

back, and to carry the front and sides to a total height from floor of 7 feet. The curtains are carried on a framework made of 2" x 2" uprights, 7 feet long, bolted to sides at the corners, and across the tops of these uprights a frame of same material is bolted on which the curtains hang.

In finishing the outside of the superstructure the ply wood surface was divided with $\frac{1}{4}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wood strips into evenly spaced panels; three on the ends and six across the back, including the door.

Stage Floor—The usual puppet stage is 4' x 8' but to permit use of larger sets this unit provides for a stage 5' x 8'. The permanent floor of the trailer provides 3 feet of the depth of the stage and the remaining 2 feet is supplied by an extension 2' x 8' in size, constructed with 2" x 4" joists and the same kind of flooring. The joists of this extension are long enough on the inner side to lap alongside the joists of the permanent floor to which they are bolted, furnishing a hinge effect stronger than can be obtained with hinges. To the underside of extension floor are attached three adjustable legs that can be changed in length to take care of unevenness in ground. In use the extension is lifted up to a plane level with the permanent floor, and when not in use or when trailer is being moved, it hangs down flush with the side of the car.

Cinderella in her coach comes on the stage to the delight of her admirers



Stage—The stage proper consists of a framework covered on front and side partially with ply wood. The front is 7 feet high and 8 feet wide, with the upper 3' 4" made of curtain material carried on a frame that will fold down when not in use. The opening in front is 2' 10" high and 5' 10" wide, leaving a panel on each side 1' 1" wide and 10" across the top, on which decorative designs are painted.

Side wings 1' 6" from front to rear are attached to the front section, the whole being made movable so that when the floor extension is raised up to position the stage frame is brought forward and bolted to the floor of the extension. A pair of forked travelers are bolted on to each side wing to support the side scenery.

At the direct center of the trailer floor a 4' x 8' frame is bolted which serves as the back of the stage. A bridge one foot wide and one foot high and eight feet long is provided for manipulators to stand on.

A pull curtain is used on this unit, being made of plush material, pleated and of maroon color.

Decorations

Very attractive effects can be obtained by painting the sides of the superstructure. In this case circus yellow was used, with paintings in brilliant colors of puppets in the center of each panel.

(Continued on page 42)

Youth Week on a Newark Playground

By VICTOR J. DI FILIPPO

Director

Oliver Street School Playground

YOUTH WEEK (April 27—May 4, 1935) was an important occasion at the Oliver Street School Playground in Newark, New Jersey. For several weeks preceding the observance volunteers and club leaders helped the various groups of children with their program and a publicity committee made up of boys and girls of the playground advertised the events throughout the school and neighborhood. All over the playground were announcements, signs and colored posters, while the campaign in the school was carried on through announcements at assembly, notices in classrooms, mimeographed information and verbal messages. The program committee consisted of volunteer playground workers who printed the programs for "Social Nite" and also the tickets required for activities held indoors.

A day was set aside for some special activity or as a time when some special group would demonstrate its ability. Since the main purpose of the program was to secure mass participation, we decided to arouse the interest of the boys and girls through an all sports day on the opening day of the week, Saturday, April 27th. In preparation for this, game areas on the playground were marked off with lime and signs were placed at each marked off area with the name of the event to be held there. Volunteer play leaders were assigned to receive the competitors, check off their lists, and start them immediately in their activity. Seven activities were conducted on this day, four for the boys and three for the girls. The boys' program included punt for distance, basketball foul shooting, baseball throw for ac-

This year Boys' and Girls' Week will be celebrated from April 25th to May 2nd inclusive. Many recreation workers will want to share in the 1936 observance as they have in the past. Further information and a manual of suggestions for each day's program may be secured on request from the National Boys' and Girls' Week Committee, 35 E. Wacker Drive, Chicago.

curacy, and the fifty yard dash, while the girls competed in basketball throw for distance, baseball throw for accuracy, and running high jump. The boys and girls were rotated in these activities so that most of them at the end of the tournament had competed in every event. Competition was on an individual basis and a record was kept of the best marks which were posted the next day on the bulletin board.

On the evening of the opening day the boys played in a round robin baseball tournament for which six leaders chose their teams. Each game lasted twelve innings. The team having the largest number of runs at the end of the round robin was declared the winner. The first day showed an attendance figure of 165 boys and 70 girls. This low figure for the girls was not a surprise since previously they had not been responsive to the playground activities.

Activities were resumed on Monday, April 29th, with the girls' tournament day. To insure better attendance than on the opening day, a notice was sent to each classroom during the day inviting the girls to take part in the tournament. A woman director of physical education was asked to cooperate by assigning certain classes to appear for the various ac-

The writing of this report was prompted not by the thought that the Youth Week Program at the Oliver Street School Playground presents any new methods, new activities or startling revelations in the recreation field, but by the whole-hearted response it received. The program was an innovation on a playground located in a section of Newark including colored and white, with a sprinkling of foreign nationalities. With its economic handicaps and poor environment, the district was unaware of its own potentialities. The success of the program was therefore more notable than it otherwise would have been.

tivities which included volley ball, dodge ball, kick ball, jacks, hop scotch, and rope skipping. Girls under twelve participated in addition in singing and circle games. An actual count made of the girls present showed that 310 had engaged in the tournament. This time the score was kept by class with no emphasis placed on individual participation but rather upon class showing.

This day proved the most stimulating of the entire Youth Week program because it showed that if girls are given space in which to play with proper leadership, they will participate in activities with as much vim and vigor as the boys, who incidentally on this one day were kept on the side lines as spectators—a fact which was brought to the girls' attention with gratifying results! Since that day the attendance of the girls at the playground has increased.

The older girls, we learned as the result of the day's experience, were attracted strongly to kick ball, while the younger girls took more interest in playing dodge ball.

That night two of the older girls' clubs on the playground combined in holding a social and invited the winning class as guests of honor.

On the next day, Tuesday, April 30th, a boys' tournament was held along the same line as the girls' tournament. The cubs, eleven years of age and under, and the midgets, fourteen years and under, competed in dodge ball, kick ball, punch ball, a quoit tournament, and a marble contest. The juniors, sixteen years of age and under, played in six events—volley ball, soccer, fungo batting, run around bases for time, in-field throw, and a quoit contest. On the evening of the 30th one of the older girls' clubs represented the playground at a city-wide play festival. This group qualified by winning the play festival conducted during the previous week

THE 1936 CALENDAR

April 25th—Boys' and Girls' Recognition Day
 April 26th—Boys' and Girls' Day in Churches
 April 27th—Boys' and Girls' Vocational Day
 April 28th—Boys' and Girls' Day in Entertainment and Athletics
 April 29th—Boys' and Girls' Day in Schools
 April 30th—Boys' and Girls' Day in Citizenship
 May 1st—Boys' and Girls' Health Day and Evening at Home
 May 2nd—Boys' and Girls' Day Out of Doors

on each playground. The playground program was continued with a boxing tournament in which eight 4-man classes were contestants. Rounds were limited to two minutes each, and at the first sign of distress on the part of a contestant the bout was stopped. Unless a capable and efficient referee is available it is not advisable to sponsor any bouts. This is true of any dual combat sport, for the main objective is the enjoyment of the sport on the part of the boys and their welfare should come first. Many times boys are permitted to continue boxing when they are in no physical condition to do so because those allowing the bouts are swayed by the desire of the spectators for action.

Approximately 275 took part in the activities on Tuesday.

On Wednesday, May 1st, our Youth Week program began at 6:30 P. M. and was called skit night. Three clubs presented short one act plays about twenty minutes in length. Between the plays a number of individuals did tap dancing, a sailor's dance, sang and gave recitations. Attendance by invitation numbered about 400.

It rained on Thursday which was to have been a city-wide play day, and so we had a party night conducted along the lines of college fraternity house parties, groups visiting other parties. Many felt that this evening, with the social values involved, was the best of the entire program.

OUTSTANDING FEATURES OF YOUTH WEEK IN NEWARK

The response of the girls to "Girls' Tournament Day."

The interest boys and girls took in preparing and conducting their own programs.

The enthusiasm with which girls took part in team play as against individual competition.

The successful grouping together of colored and white in athletic events and social affairs.

The highly stimulating and fine efforts of the student leaders.

The fact that the entire week's program did not involve any expenditure of funds.

The high peak of interest maintained through the tempo of the program and rapid changes of events, making awards unnecessary as a means of sustaining interest.

on each playground.

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Friday was the last official day of the week and a dance and social was held at which an orchestra composed of members of the playground was an important part of the program. The entertainment was the contribution of the playground dramatic club. The first part of the evening was devoted to short skits, musical selections and vocal solos. Children under fifteen were sent home at an early hour, the adults remaining for

(Continued on page 42)



Planning the Easter Party

Easter comes from the Anglo-Saxon word "Eastre"—a goddess of light or Spring whose festival was celebrated in April



WITH THE COMING of April there is a feeling of eager, restless activity and gladness born of the mysterious elixir of the air. Easter brings with its familiar traditions a climax of Spring's joy. A merry and simple party set against the background of charm and dainty freshness of April and Easter can serve as a fitting medium for capturing the season's gladness. Suggestions for such a party follow; it may be used as a whole or in part.

Invitations. Invitations appropriate to the season may be easily and cleverly made representing in shape or design rabbits, Easter eggs, chickens, ducks or spring themes. A note in verse will further challenge your originality in its composition. The invitation for small parties may even be written on an egg (boiled) and mailed in a box. A pre-Easter window shopping trip will net a number of ideas and possibilities which may be adapted or altered to suit your particular purpose.

Decorations. Decorations follow the Easter and spring themes, emphasis being on pastel colors, daintiness and charm. Easter theme cut-outs (rabbits, ducks, chickens, eggs) may be used for table, wall or corner-of-the-room decorations. Streamers, flowers and spring greenery will bring spring and Easter atmosphere to the party room. Easter "creatures" may be made by combining marshmallows, gum drops, Easter eggs, bits of colored paper and toothpicks. These may be used as prizes, as favors at the table or as part of the refreshments.

Easter Bonnets. Easter and spring and fine new clothes come hand in hand; so as the guests arrive see that each is suitably attired for the festivities by having each make and decorate an Easter bonnet. Provide the raw materials on a table, including colored crepe paper, flowers (real or otherwise), feathers, cloth, newspaper, old hats, pins, scissors, wire. Give each guest five to ten

minutes to design and make a hat. Each guest wears his "creation." (An egg decorating or Easter animal construction contest might be used as an alternative. Eggs, paint, crayons, pencil, yarn, cotton and paper are provided. Each object is tagged with the maker's name and the Easter march occurs while the judges examine the exhibit.)

Easter March. When the guests are all bonneted, start a grand march past the judges who will select the prettiest hat, funniest and smartest, giving prizes for men's "bonnets" as well as women's. While the judges confer, the grand march progresses through several grand march figures, ending in four to eight columns before the judges for the awarding of the prizes. Incidentally the group is in formation for the next game.

Balloon "Egg" Relay. Use air-inflated colored balloons for "eggs." Two teams line up. The first player in each tosses the "egg" in the air and bats it with the palm of his hand, batting it toward a far wall. The "egg" must not be carried. When the "egg" hits the wall the player may seize it and run back to the next player in line who bats the "egg" to the wall. The first line to finish wins. This race is more quickly and easily said than done, for when a balloon is hit at all upward it takes some time to come down.

German Egg Game. Two baskets, paper, grass and hard boiled eggs are needed for this game. Two teams are lined up. One team tends the baskets, the other does the running. While player one of team A runs to a goal and back, player one of team B takes the eggs from one basket, one at a time, using only one hand, and places them in the other basket. If the runner gets back before the eggs are all transferred he scores a point for his team; if not, the team with the baskets wins a point. The next two in line now compete, number two of team A running and number two of

team B transferring the eggs. In planning the goal location, the distance apart of the baskets and number of eggs to be used, a little experimentation before the party will be necessary to see that the timing is such that the race will be a close one. Score is kept. Teams change activities, team A transferring eggs and team B running. At the end scores are totaled and the highest scoring team wins.

Easter Mixer. Give each person ten or twelve small candy Easter eggs. One player approaches another with some of the eggs in an outstretched fist. "Odd or even?" he asks. The person questioned guesses whether an odd or even number of eggs is concealed in the fist. If he is right the eggs become his property; if he is wrong he must give the questioner the number of eggs the questioner held in his fist. At the end of five or eight minutes a whistle is blown and the player with the largest number of eggs is awarded a chocolate rabbit or similar Easter object for a prize.

Eggs-pectations. Pencil and paper are given to each guest or to groups of guests. The following couplets appear on the paper, the word in italics being omitted. The guests are to fill in the blanks with words starting with "eggs." The party leader should read a completed couplet to make clear to the players what is expected. The first person who completes the list correctly or presents the most nearly correct list at the end of a period of time wins:

1. Good fortune that for you will wait
One could hardly *eggs-aggerate*.
2. If you your present tasks will not neglect
A fine promotion you may soon *eggs-pect*.
3. A lovely trip beyond your fondest dream,
You soon will journey to earth's far *eggs-treme*!
4. To be an artist you will toil *eggs-pend*,
Keep striving on, you will attain your end!
5. You wish to find professional success?
Eggs-ert yourself, results your path will bless.
6. A flyer would you be, keen and alert?
Then just start in, you'll soon become *eggs-pert*.
7. Ere next Easter comes, you'll surely be wed,
And make quite an *eggs-ellent* match, 'twill be said.

Bad Egg. A hard boiled egg is passed from hand to hand about the circle. It is described as uncooked and very bad — weeks and weeks old, although in reality it is fresh and hard boiled. The egg is passed about the circle until the whistle blows. The person holding the egg at that moment is out of the game. The last player left in the

game wins. If the party is large several small groups can play this game at once, using an egg for each group.

To Easterland. Place colored cardboard eggs, rabbits or chicken cut-outs about the room, on the floor, tables or chairs, or pin them to the curtains. There is one less cut-out than players. Music is played as the players march about the room. When the music stops, everyone must rush to put a hand or a foot on an egg, rabbit or chicken cut-out. The person left without a cut-out is out of the game and a cut-out is removed. The music is played again and the game continues until only one person remains. That person receives an Easter favor for a prize.

Easter Egg Swap may be used instead of "To Easterland" where groups are already too familiar with variations of "Going to Jerusalem."

Scatter many differently colored paper eggs on the floor. At a signal players dash to pick up as many as they can. Then announce that the first to complete a set of six, eight or ten (the number depends on the size of the group) different colors by "swapping" will win a prize.

Rabbit-Gun-Hunter. Each of two sides is to represent by actions a gun (aiming an imaginary gun), a rabbit (wiggling hands at top of head), or a hunter (hand shading eyes). Each line decides upon its part which at a signal they simultaneously pantomime. If one side is a rabbit, the other a gun, the gun side scores a point for gun can kill rabbit. If one side is a hunter and the other a rabbit, rabbit side scores for rabbit can run from hunter.

Music and Dancing. "The Crested Hen," a Danish folk dance, would be appropriate here because of its title. It works especially well if there are more girls than boys at the party, for each set calls for one man and two girls although the parts may be interchanged.

Spring songs and the old favorites, such as "Aunt Dinah's Quilting Party," are appropriate to the Easter season party.

Refreshments. For large parties refreshments might consist of coffee, cakes decorated with Easter eggs or cookies in Easter shapes. Smaller parties might include sandwiches, using egg in some, or sandwiches and deviled eggs, coffee and cake. The table centerpieces might be composed of homemade cotton ducks on a mirror, cardboard rabbits in a carrot or basket centerpiece, or Easter eggs.

Creation in Clay

JUST WHAT is the earliest form of art? Caves in southwestern Europe reveal scratches in the soft limestone which archeologists call the dawn of art form. It is far more likely that the first artist lived and worked long before sharpened flints and sticks were used to draw these pictures on rock. There are many evidences pointing to the fact that the first artist worked in clay—the essential matter of the world in which he lived. Within burial mounds, graves and rock sepulchers, broken fragments of crude jars and bowls are found mingled with the bones of prehistoric man. The art of the sculptor and the art-craft of the potter must have been ancient when the rock drawings of Europe were but recent scratches.

It may well have been that the first artist stumbled by chance upon his medium. A foot-print left in the rain-softened clay which hardened and baked under the beating sun so that it held the water of a subsequent shower, probably directed the thought of the first potter. A bit of clay caught and pressed in the fingers may have turned a prehistoric man into our first, though unknown, sculptor. Certainly working with clay, twisting, turning, shaping it must have been a liberal education for primitive man.

The Appeal of Clay as a Creative Medium

Clay as an art medium appeals to all ages from the youngest dabbler in mud pies to the hobby-seeking adult. Old or young, the individual who works in clay becomes a creator—a god in miniature. The clay beneath the fingers is molded and forms created emerge from within the clay into the external world. Perhaps the manipulator alone, whose fingers on the strings of a puppet

By MARESE ELIOT
Head Research Supervisor
Recreation Unit, WPA
New York City

"Have you ever held a ball of modeling clay in your hand? Try it. Knead it and press it until it become a mass under your fingers that yields to your slightest pressure; that reflects your thought, your imagination, and becomes submissive to your will. When you have played with such a ball of clay you begin to know the meaning of joy in creation. It is not so much what the modeler, whether he be child or adult, does to the clay, but what the clay does to the person who handles it."

send life into the inanimate doll, even nearly approaches the sculptor and potter in realization of the spirit within themselves made manifest in the everyday world. Artists who work in clay can feel the spirit within themselves flow through their finger tips giving life to lifeless clay.

All art brings attraction and relaxation in some fascinating pastime. But clay modeling, more than the other mediums, is filled with satisfaction for the artist. Perhaps you have never drawn a line or modeled a single simple form. That does not mat-

ter. Satisfaction comes to the amateur with the first touch of the clay between his fingers.

Put clay in the fingers of a child who is restless and difficult to interest either at home or in the classroom and within a few moments he will feel the peace that radiates from the clay. He becomes one with it. Even the irascible adult succumbs to the charm of clay.

Directed in the right way the practice of clay modeling develops the artistic powers inherent in everyone more rapidly and surely than any other type of art handwork. In developing clay modeling there should be very little of routine educational procedure. The work should be regarded not as a task but treated as relaxation bringing joy and the thrill of creation. Anyone embarking on this work should be free to work, developing his own method of handling the clay and restricted only by certain fundamental rules. Children especially will quickly sense the inner creative power as they handle a ball of clay and will be eager to exercise it.

The stimulation of imagination is one of the results of clay modeling. The child naturally perceives the essential qualities of the object he wishes to model. He usually sees it in terms of

size and shape—the inherent structure of the object he is about to copy. The seeing in this fashion is what the artist terms “mass.” This is the beginning of all work in clay. Detail and decoration are of secondary consideration. Seeing the object in terms of “mass” is usually natural for the child and one should seek to develop this instinctive knowledge by describing the model in terms of “mass.” Where adults are turning to clay modeling as leisure pastimes, it will be necessary for the individual to draw his attention from the details and decorations and direct it to mass and to planes of surface.

The Procedure

After the object to be modeled has been chosen, the necessary tools are then assembled. First in importance after the medium itself is the board on which the work must be done. Three dimensional models cannot be considered as hanging in mid-air and the board upon which they are placed represents the surface upon which the model stands. Clay should never be worked in the hand separated from the modeling board. Holding the clay in the hand spoils the contours that are completed and after the first steps have been taken, the clay should not be raised from the board. Besides ruining work accomplished, the shape is changed and the clay dried out by handling, and the artist will find he has something which closely resembles the piece of the dough mother used to give him to make his own loaf of bread.

A flat board, not less than nine by eleven inches, is the thing upon which to model. Two pieces of wood screwed across the grain of the board on the under side will serve for supports and will prevent your board from warping beneath the damp clay.

Clay can be procured from any art store and should be stored when not in use within jars. Keep the surface damp, but not water covered. Use an air tight top on the jar. The clay that is known as terra cotta is an excellent choice for modeling for it adds a pleasant color value to fine workability, being smooth and free from grit.

When you are once ready to begin work, arrange your board

upon a table or any other support which will be the right height for you. If you decide to stand at your work, you will find that you will have more elbow room and greater sense of freedom and power. However, there are a number of people who can work seated just as well with less strain on the feet.

In modeling the fingers are the most approved tools when laying out the general mass. The thumb and forefinger of each hand should work simultaneously. Use a circular motion of the thumb and finger for curved surfaces and a straight motion when a flat plane is desired.

There are long narrow, curving tools of wood which may be used to make the details of the models where the thumb and finger are too large to obtain the desired effect. However, if the artist has nothing but a match to supplement his fingers, he can still do creditable work. Both tools and fingers should be kept moist when working the clay and a wet sponge should be within reach when the artist is in action. If the work is to be left over night or even for a few hours without working, a damp cloth spread over the clay will keep it from cracking on the surface.

The condition of the clay for use depends largely upon the taste of the individual. All clay must be kneaded or worked upon the board before attempting to model with it. Air bubbles must be forced out and the surface of the clay made smooth and free from wrinkles. No two artists, however, use clay of the same consistency. Some like it fairly firm and stiff; others knead it long and pound it thoroughly on the board, “throwing” the clay in much the fashion a baker “throws” dough, until it reaches the exact malleable condition personally preferred. Only experiment will reveal the consistency of the clay which results in the best work for each individual.

Working From a Model

In working from a model, the procedure should be from general to the particular. Before starting at all with modeling, the general shape or mass of the object to be modeled should be determined. All objects fall into one of the seven shapes of the Platonic solids or into combinations of these seven. It is well to start

“Durable, lasting for thousands of years, the products of the potter's art tell an inspiring story of man's emergence from a mere struggle for existence to a full and abundant life in which the creation and appreciation of beauty has an important place. Step by step we can follow the development of a picturesque craft that has possibly more facets of beauty than any other; beauty of form, beauty of color, beauty of texture, and beauty of decoration and design.”—*Chester Marsh in The Girl Scout Leader, January 1936.*

with a model that is simple and that is readily seen to have the general shape of a cube, a sphere, or a rectangular plinth.

Having found the essential shape of the model, then the proportions should be noted, character of the mass determined and the light and shade observed.

Mold the kneaded clay into the general underlying form. Then work with the fingers the shape of divisions of the object to be modeled. Pay no attention to the details until the large divisions—technically known as “masses”—are modeled into the structure of clay. Children are usually able to see these masses easily. For the adult whose eye is untrained to accept what is beneath without thought of superimposed details, these masses may be most readily seen if the eyes are half closed to look at the model.

A banana forms an easily obtained and interesting model for beginners. That the rectangular plinth is the essential form of the banana can be readily seen. To copy the model of a banana in clay, this plinth should be built up of stiff clay on the board. Smooth out the clay with the moist finger and thumb so that the surface is smooth and press and force the lump of clay into the proper proportions. Curve the clay so that it follows the approximate curve of the particular banana chosen as a model.

Observe the planes of the banana. They are long and convex; in rare instances they are concave. Follow the planes of the model in the clay by smoothing along the length with the moist thumb. Work the clay from within outward to form the edges of the planes. These may be finished with the wooden tool to form a sharp edge necessary. Then model the ends of the banana, drawing out the clay from the center to form the bud and the stem ends and work up the ends of the clay with the curved end of the wooden tool. Smooth over the entire surface with the moist thumb.

After the model is finished it can be detached from the board with a piece of strong string or wire held firm in the two hands and drawn along the board under the model cutting it from its base. Let the clay model dry before lifting it from the board. It can be baked in a kiln, if desired, or, if carefully dried and handled gently, will preserve its form for some time.

"True education is literally a drawing from within. No project was better fitted than clay modeling for the task of developing the inner self of our early ancestors to an understanding and an adaptation of the world to his needs. Today modeling in clay remains a vital field that is the tool of true education."

Once the feel of the clay has been acquired by modeling such simple a form as a banana, you will find much interest in using the human head as a model. One member of the family can act as a model and the procedure is much the same except in detail.

The Armature

To work in the round, however, artists have found that another piece of apparatus is necessary to prevent effacing part of the work as another surface is worked upon. This apparatus is called an armature. Several types can be used and they are readily obtainable in art stores but a simple type is adequate for the modeling of the head and can be constructed with little trouble.

To make such a simple armature, procure a square of wood with a diameter which will bear a relation to the size of head that is to be modeled. The larger the head to be made, the heavier the weight of the clay and the heavier and larger the base must be made. Then take a dowel or round length of wood (a square, too, is possible to use) with the diameter of an inch to an inch and a half to two inches, according to the size of the head that is to be made. The length, also, is regulated by the size of the head, but from ten to fifteen inches will be the usual size that will provide space for the head and also room to work around and beneath it and to draw out the neck along the dowel. This should be nailed to the center of the square base in an upright position. Upon this upright the lump of clay is forced after it has been thrown and kneaded free from air bubbles and wrinkles.

A more elaborate armature can be made from the same type of square base with the same length of round piping screwed into it. A series of two or three wired loops are forced into the top of the pipe and the hollow inner space between the wires filled with wood chips before the clay is placed upon the upright. This form of armature is excellent for large or life-size models, as the filled wire interior results in a saving of clay and also a lightening of the model.

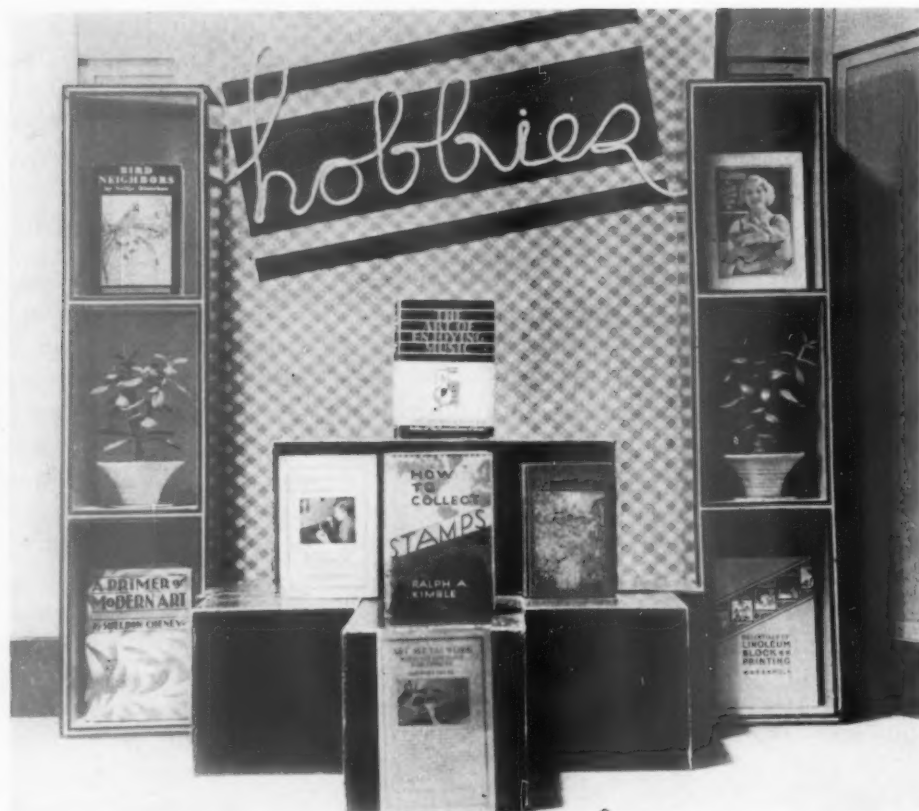
When You Model a Head

For modeling a head, take a lump of clay larger than the finished head is to be. All modeling is

(Continued on page 43)

Why Not Ask Your Library for Help?

Books on animals and birds, handcraft, art, music, drama, stamp collecting and other hobbies are featured in this display at the Hild Regional Branch Library in Chicago



The majority of public libraries have books to encourage hobbies and many types of recreation. If you are a recreation leader why not ask your local library to cooperate with you in a series of window displays which will create greater community interest in both reading and recreation? If the library has display windows, use those; if it hasn't, some store will be glad to give space.



The Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore arranged an exhibit of articles costing not more than fifty cents for exhibit in a garage show window

A City-Wide Club for Girls

By IRENE WELTY

WE HAVE in Allentown the Quota Club, a group of business and professional women who a few months ago became interested in organizing activities for the girls in a district of the city where the police calls caused by the girls were the highest, and economic and social conditions were unfavorable for the all-around development of the individual.

The Quota Club, wishing to make the project a broad one, decided it would be desirable to have it sponsored by all the women's groups of the city. The club held a tea to which it invited a representative of every women's group. At this tea the proposal was made that a coordinating committee be organized composed of a representative from each club whose responsibility would be the financing of a girls' club, the active supervision of which would be in the hands of the Recreation Commission. Following this meeting, the representatives discussed the project with their clubs and at a second meeting called by the sponsoring group, fifteen clubs signified their desire to help. Today thirty clubs are represented on the committee.

A constitution and by-laws were adopted and officers elected. Having decided upon a girls' club as the most desirable project, the next step was the selecting of a building to house the club. Scouting parties set forth and finally a two story building 35' wide and 75' high was secured. The building had both advantages and disadvantages. The favorable features were good floor space on both stories, the floor of the lower story being half wood and half concrete, making possible such games as hop scotch and so-called street games; good natural lighting, and a large stage on the second floor. Among the drawbacks were much dirt, an absence of electric lights, heating plant and drinking water, and poor toilet facilities. It was decided that the difficulties could be conquered by man power and money, and the building was accordingly rented at \$25.00 a month for nine months beginning September 15th.

Miss Welty, Superintendent of Recreation in Allentown, Pa., served as chairman of the committee which recommended the project to be undertaken. Ever since its inception she has been very closely associated with the administration of the club.

The first task was the cleaning of the building. We had a transient home in Allentown at the time and fortunately for us we were able to secure men to work for us who were paid by emergency funds. For about a month ten men worked scrubbing the building, weather-stripping the windows and doing odd jobs of all kinds. The city government gave the services of the city electrician and the necessary wires. The committee paid for

the lights and switches. Several second-hand furnaces were contributed and a furnace company which had promised to install old heating apparatus gave us instead a new furnace. The School District had a drinking fountain which was not in use, and this was installed by a city plumber along with a wash basin which had been donated. Thus we solved the problem of improved toilet facilities.

Furniture began to pour in from all sources and soon we had rugs on the floors, curtains at the windows, comfortable chairs, a piano and radio on both floors, an excellent library, sewing machines, material and wool. On Sunday, September 15th, the club, known as "The Haven," was opened and the girls literally poured into the building.

Registration started immediately, girls from six to twenty-five years of age being registered. Today our registration is 540, half being under twelve years of age and the rest over this age. The nationalities are varied with the Ukrainians and Slovaks predominating. When we registered the girls we asked them what they would like to do and on the basis of their interest the clubs were formed. At present these include sewing, knitting, drama, art, social dancing, tap dancing, music, story-telling, and current events. In the near future a course will be offered girls contemplating domestic service. Five teachers, a seamstress and a matron secured through WPA, constitute the staff.

The coordinating committee is responsible for the financing and to date there has been no dif-

faculty in meeting expenses. The sponsoring committee is deriving much satisfaction from its work, exemplifying the saying: "Happiness is like jam. You can't spread even a little without getting some of it yourself."

Since the opening of the club we have seen a change in the girls. They are more tractable and take a very keen interest in their club. A few nights ago a pipe burst in the cellar and a little ten year old, observing our agitation, said: "Don't youse have trouble, though! If the kids ain't breaking the furniture, the pipes bust themselves." Our most difficult sixteen year old is now our leader and our greatest asset.

The Christmas holidays meant more to the girls this year than ever before. They love the Haven with its Christmas decorations. "The Hanging of the Greens" was solemnized, and the Christmas party on December 27th was thoroughly enjoyed. The presentation of "Christmas in Other Lands" and "Why the Chimes Rang" will always be remembered.

The Haven has changed the lives of the girls it has touched but to date we have merely scratched the surface. Our hope is that we shall be able to attain the goal set for the club—a haven for girls in every sense of the word.

The problem of recreation for young people, both boys and girls, has assumed such importance in recent years that all attempts to help solve it through the organization of clubs and similar groups are watched with keen interest. An experiment which is being tried in Buffalo is reported here for the benefit of our readers.

What to do about hundreds of unemployed young people loafing about a science museum and disturbing its program and

its serious-minded visitors was the problem faced by the Buffalo Museum of Science two and a half years ago, or until it brought into being the Museum Amigos Club to deal with the problem of the leisure time of the young unemployed in the vicinity of the museum. The solution lay in showing these young people, who range in age from sixteen to twenty-five years, how to develop a self-governing organization to carry on an educational and recreational program.

The club is under the management of a counselor provided by the New York State Adult Education Department, who is responsible to that department and who cooperates with the Buffalo Museum. The young people have now become friends of the museum and can be looked to for responsible assistance. A well-rounded program for the Museum Amigos Club is made possible through outstanding community cooperation. It includes social evenings at the museum with cards, checkers, chess and table tennis; a glee club for male voices; dancing once a week in a neighboring church hall; gymnasium classes and basketball games in a public school; basketball leagues in conjunction with other free time centers throughout the city; dramatic classes; baseball teams, playing other centers and neighborhood teams; trips to Y.M.C.A. camps and other sites for outings and picnics, and annual banquets at which the club members spend social evenings with many of the people who are interested in them and their problems.

During the summer months the club members

were the nucleus of weekly outdoor dances on the museum doorstep where between 7,000 and 8,000 were attracted by dance music furnished by ERB and where on other nights 2,000 to 2,500 enjoyed concerts under the same auspices.

Of more than 400 present

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A sketch class at the Girls' Haven

Sunday Hikers

By MARY E. MERCER

DO YOU remember the lines from Po-Chi-I's poem?

"All the year, detained by official business; Today at last we got a chance to go . . . and In our hearts is stored what our eyes and ears perceived. . . ."

Two friends and I had talked for a long time of tramping through the Connecticut woods around Kent. So long, in fact, that we were astonished one day to find ourselves slamming the car door and facing the first scramble up to Kent Rock. It was a clear, still, October Sunday morning.

The carillon in the village church was calling people to worship. We looked at each other and laughed. And why wouldn't we? It was a joyful day, we were delighted to be with each other, and "playing hooky" ever was divine folly. You can't go to church and go tramping at the same time. When the carillon ceased, we concluded with a work-a-day assumption that that was its method of expressing its disapproval of us and our ways and immediately we were plunged into a gulf of self-remorse. Faintly, sweetly, the voices of a boy choir rose to us chanting a religious response. We stood there in that yellow sunshine listening.

Half the fun of walking lies in the guide book and map. Guide books respect the tenths of a mile as solemnly as a full-fledged mile and, after all, there is something ludicrously important about knowing that you have just walked .2 miles.

We left the main highway and climbed .3 miles to the outlook on Kent Rock. The trail blazes on the way up were indistinct and badly in need of paint. In contrast to this the rock itself was a sight to behold. That youthful urge to plaster the landscape with one's initials was given full



reign and the boys from the school below had used every color imaginable to this end. The result was quite awful. Its redeeming feature was that the canvas had been restricted to a very small area.

The view from Kent Rock deserved better than the secondary attention we

gave it. Kent spread itself out neatly in the small valley and seemed content to have the Housatonic River meander lazily through it.

The guide book takes you from Kent Rock to Glacier Boulder to the Macedonia Brook in three giant strides. It neglects to mention the open meadows gay with autumnal festivity, the grey squirrels which greeted us with much curiosity and scolding, the overgrown lumber road which was a joy to walk on, the flock of partridges which whirred off through the thicket without injuring their wings, or the friendly white cloud overhead which kept pace with us. Guide books are so matter of fact!

The trail follows the Nodine Hollow road for 2.3 miles past some appealing log cabins. Among them one was conspicuously out of place; it was a translation of what modernism thinks of a shack in the woods. Don't you suppose the owners must have been uncomfortable living in it? Most of the cabin inhabitants were back, looking like wistful exiles returned to their native haunts for a day. One man was lying on his sloping cabin roof sound asleep in the sun.

Now and then a car went by and split its attention between trying to stay on the road and to stare at us. That "automobilic" stare is a mixture of things. It certainly contains curiosity, a little envy and wonderment, and an approval which varies! At any rate, it is absorbing.

Our object was to stay with the dirt road only so far as the trail did. So on we walked and talked and looked at the houses and their people. It sounds civilized, but it wasn't. We turned a bend in the road and startled and were startled by a hauntingly beautiful deer. It didn't dash away frightened, but conscious of its grace and poise it loped leisurely across a wide meadow and into the woods beyond. We gazed after it, feeling that once in the woods it peeped back at us.

It was so pleasant on the road that we didn't notice the trail leaving it. I think hunger was our excuse; it is always a legitimate one. We sat on a plank bridge swinging our feet as we ate our sandwiches. The little brook sparkled up at us whimsically but for all its guiles it looked chilly. Then we discovered a new sport: whenever a car inched by us there came a delicious moment when it seemed questionable just who had possession of the bridge.

I hate to admit just how long it took us to become aware that we had missed the trail. While we were explaining it to each other, bent over the map, a game warden appeared from nowhere. He was a laconic individual dressed in his Sunday best which consisted of olive-green breeches, properly creased, a khaki shirt and an open dark blue coat with a silver badge. He wore puttees and a span-new sombrero and walked with a staff. For all of that he looked like a college professor off masquerading. He had white hair, black-rimmed, tortoise-shell glasses and an intelligent, dreamy face.

When he learned what we were looking for, he reckoned that we had missed the trail about a mile back. We looked at each other. One, or maybe two of us might have been that unobserving, but how all three of us had missed it was incomprehensible.

"Did you see the red tractor by the side of the road?" he asked.

We admitted we hadn't.

"Humph, probably been looking at the road," he grumbled as he walked away disdainfully.

We protested in vain. Our woodcraft could have been bought for almost any price at that point.

It was a little too late in the day for us to retrace our steps, but the map showed that the trail came in on this road farther on. We looked up regretfully at Cobble Mountain and Pine Hill where the trail beamed benignly down upon us.

When we turned a bend in the road we saw our warden friend standing, feet astride, leaning with both hands on his staff, staring into Macedonia Brook. At first we thought he hadn't heard us and we made talk to warn him of our approach. Warning, indeed. He said softly, without turning around.

"Rainbow trout."

And he pointed with his staff. One trout was swimming lazily around a sunken log in the middle of Macedonia Brook. The warden half forgave us for our silent admiration.

It appeared that he had been feeling very indignant toward what he called the "public." The newspaper had published a notice each day for a week that fires were banned and yet the "public" came to Macedonia State Park on Sunday with uncooked steak dinners. We had noticed the "No Fires" signs planted in the center of each fireplace along the way. The public seldom believes in signs.

We soothed the warden somewhat when we told him how much we liked his park.

There was a series of camp sites and picnic grounds strung along the winding road. Each spot was small and a good stone's throw away from the next, which gave each group a privacy most state parks do not have. Its rustiness was its own and not man-made.

Not long after we had started off again, we saw the trail waiting impishly for us down the road. We met and went on; it was a nice road, after all, and the rhythm of walking was good. We met few cars and fewer hikers. There is something fraternal about meeting other hikers; it is as if you shared a secret.

When the sun was getting pale and the light warned us that it was leaving us, we left the road for a trail that led up to a rocky bluff, Caleb's Peak. We had walked a semi-circle and Kent lay

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CLIMBING

It's the feel of the rocks and the
turn of the path,
And the vista now and then;
It's the flower in the rock, or
the call of the bird
That bids you leave the glen.
It's the cool of the air, and the
steady climb
That makes you feel alive;
And the view at the top is the
best of the lot
When you at last arrive.

Marjorie Stickney

Organizing a Hobby Show

By HENRY FERRIS DONN
New York City

A COLLECTION of hobbies representing the interests of people between the ages of seven and seventy from twenty-three different countries is something not to be missed. This was the opportunity offered the people of New York's lower East Side during Easter week last year in an exhibit sponsored by Christodora House, a non-sectarian organization providing cultural facilities for one of the most congested areas of Manhattan.

Realizing the latent talent represented in the people of the neighborhood, Christodora House determined to open new fields of interest to the people wandering in the labyrinth of social change and at a loss to know what to do with their new leisure. A hobby show, it was believed, would stimulate their interest by presenting a cross section of the leisure time activities already being followed by people in their own community.

How It Was Organized

Organization was centralized in one individual known as the chairman of the hobby show whose duty it was to form a central committee and to integrate the duties of the various subcommittee. Each member of the hobby show committee served as chairman of a subcommittee responsible for one particular phase of the project. The committee in general charge consisted of the following members who were selected from their respective departments:

Chairman of Publicity. The editor of the house newspaper served in this office and was assisted by

members of his staff, the art class and poster painting groups.

Chairman of Properties. The stage manager of the Dramatic Club headed this division. The Play House was selected as the place for the exhibition because it provided ample wall and floor space.

Chairmen were also selected for each of the following handcraft divisions: Graphic Arts, Plastic Arts, Crafts, Woodwork, Models and Collections.

There were also chairmen for dramatics and athletics who arranged for special programs demonstrating other Christodora activities, at the same time providing entertainment for guests.

Meetings of the hobby show committee were held several weeks prior to the show for the purpose of setting up the machinery of the exhibition.

Making the Hobby Show Known

Mimeographed handbills announcing the hobby show were sent to all the social agencies, schools, libraries, churches and recreation centers in the community. School teachers cooperated by writing notices of the event on their classroom blackboards, and announcements were made from assembly platforms. Newspapers in the community

cooperated in giving ample space for publicity. Posters were made in the art classes and distributed for display in near-by schools and libraries.

Programs giving in detail the list of athletic and dramatic presentations and demonstrations were mimeographed and distributed throughout the community. These



various means of publicity made it possible to reach a large part of the population.

Caring for the Exhibits

In inviting people to bring their hobbies in for demonstration purposes, a responsibility for their care was assumed by the House. Many of the items brought in were valuable and would be difficult to replace if broken or stolen. As each item was brought in it was recorded on a numbered card which contained the name; age, address and telephone number of the exhibitor. In addition, the condition of the article to be displayed was recorded. The exhibitor was told when to call for the article. Before leaving he was asked to sign a card releasing the House of any liability for the exhibits. Assurance was given that all reasonable care would be taken of the articles but the House could not assume liability for any accident. All of the exhibitors were cooperative on this issue.

The name and age of the exhibitor were then placed on the article. It was turned over to the chairman of the particular division in which it was classified. Exhibits which were displayed by the various classes of the House had on them a card upon which was typed a short history of the class, the leader's name, time of meeting, fees, if any, etc.

The Exhibits

The various classifications follow.

Graphic Arts

Architectural drawings	Oil paintings, portrait
Charcoal sketches	Oil paintings, still life
Compass charts	Pastels
Costume designing	Pen and ink sketches
Crayon drawing	Pencil drawing, copied
Dress designing	Pencil drawing, original
Map making	Poster designing
Oil paintings, landscape	Water color painting
Mineral sketching on porcelain	

Pictures that were in frames were suspended from wall brackets. Those that were not framed were pinned on pieces of burlap tacked on the

walls. If mounted on cardboard they served as a background for the table displays.

Plastic Arts

Clay modeling	Plasticine modeling
Lead casting	Plaster of Paris casts
Life masks	Pottery
Marionette making	Sculpturing
Mask making, papier-maché	Soap carving
Stone work	

Special four foot stands were made of wood to hold the larger casts of clay. The masks were pinned to a piece of black cloth that was draped over a wooden frame which served as a background for one of the display tables. The rest of the material was displayed on long office tables that were covered with inexpensive cloth or sheets.

Crafts

Archery craft
Basketry
Bead work
Belt making, cord
Bookbinding
Brass tapping
Crocheting
Dressmaking
Embroidery
Fibre craft
Glass silhouettes
Indian lore
Iron work
Jewelry
Knitting
Lace work
Lamp shade construction
Leather work, tooled
Leather work, untooled
Linoleum block cuts
Rug making, Early
American
Sheepskin craft
Silver craft
Tin can craft
Weaving

Needle craft
Pewter
Pounded metal work
Pyrography
Rope brush work

These articles were placed on tables that were covered with sheets. Care was taken in placing the material so that everything could be easily seen. "Do not handle" signs were placed on every table. The leaders of the various crafts were on hand at all times to answer any questions pertaining to their work. As much as possible of the material was covered with glass panes that had been obtained from desk tops in the building.

Woodwork

Easel construction	Toy making
Furniture making	Ukulele construction, cigar box
House construction	Wood carving
Marionettes	Wood turning
Model construction	

This exhibit was placed on tables. Easels were used to hold other sections of the exhibit.

Collections

The collections were an outstanding feature of the exhibit and aroused special interest. They included the following:

Coins from many lands

(This exhibit was placed under a glass pane, the glass being made secure by sticking it with adhesive tape to the bed sheet which covered the table.)

Stamps from many lands

(A large map of the world was drawn by members of the art class and the stamps were placed on the countries from which they came. Large albums and material used in pursuing this hobby, such as magnifying glasses, tweezers and stickers, were placed on the table with the stamps.)

First day covers

(This was a very valuable collection loaned by the man who ran the elevator in the building. It was placed under glass.)

Cachets

Autographs from personalities in the musical world

Club newspapers

Club albums and scrap books

Collection of United States pennies

(These were placed in slots cut out of a piece of box wood and made secure in the wood by glue. Pennies dated from 1880 to 1934)

Photography

(This collection was mounted on large sheets of cardboard and served as a background to the table exhibits.)

Shell collections

Collection of leather skins

(These were a good background for the leather craft exhibit.)

Knot boards

Mounted rattlesnakes

(Hung from wall brackets.)

Buttons

(Pinned to a sheet of cardboard.)

Tools

(Mounted on ply board.)

Precious and semi-precious stones

(These were shown in a locked case and were mounted on small pieces of cotton which were placed on little pieces of cardboard.)

Collection of small handmade motors

Match box covers

(Mounted on cardboard and placed on an easel)

Human embryos

(This was a collection of twenty-eight human fetuses from one week to six months. They were especially stained to show the bone growth. This is a hobby of one of the medical students living at the House.)

Theater tickets (in a folder)

College scrap book

Guppies (in a tank provided by the collector)

Many of these collections were very valuable and great care was taken to safeguard them. Small cards on each collection told the story of the hobby and many of the collectors were on hand to answer questions.

Models

Ship models

Air planes

Miniature stage sets

Large lathe

Ox carts

Boats

Model houses

Miniature motors

Bagatelle set

Demonstrations

The dramatic group of Christodora House presented several plays during the week in which junior, intermediate and senior boys and girls participated. Demonstrations were given by members of the various House groups in folk dancing, singing, swimming and diving, basketball, foul shooting, handball, volley ball and ping pong. No admission charge was made to any of the demonstrations or to the hobby show itself.

It was found that the best policy was to admit children only in the afternoon from 3:30 to 5:30. Adults attended from 7:00 P. M. to 10:00 P. M. Over 3,000 people visited the exhibit during the week and over 100 different hobbies were on exhibition.

Results Secured

The show served its immediate objective in that it presented to the people of the community a cross section of the leisure time activities of their neighborhood. There has been an increase in the art and crafts classes at Christodora House since the exhibit. Two of the exhibitors were so impressed by the many inquiries about their work that they volunteered to lead groups in the House.

The consensus of opinion was that the exhibit had proved its worth and that it should be repeated next year on a larger scale.

Palo Alto's May Festival

By KATHERINE PEAVY

MAY DAY is Play Day in Palo Alto, California, and on that day, or on the first Saturday in May of each year, literally the whole town forgets its troubles and joins in the festivities planned to occupy every minute from nine in the morning until bedtime.

The first May Festival was held sixteen years ago at the old community center (now the veterans' building, as Palo Alto has a fine new civic center at Rinconada Park) on the lawns under the spreading oaks. Each year the enthusiasm and interest increase, for the community has discovered how delightful it is to play together.

Kathleen Norris, novelist, journalist and philanthropist, guards her chairmanship of the May Festival committee jealously. All through the year she plans for the occasion, and when the next year rolls around she has already interviewed representatives from the various service organizations asking—and receiving—funds and aid, and has “nagged” the police department until she has extracted a promise to clear the streets for the parade.

That the May Festival is “more fun than a circus” is attested by Mrs. Norris herself who, upon spying a group of shabby little boys gazing longingly at the hot dog stand, generously supplied the coveted nourishment and observed, “I’m sorry I had to be out of town when the circus was here last week. I had planned to take a lot of you to see the performance.”

“Oh, that’s all right,” replied one boy, “I’d lots sooner go to the May Fete. It don’t cost so much and you can stay all day long.”

The Parade Is On!

Mrs. Norris plans each year to have some sort of unusual feature for the parade. One year she



brought home from a trip abroad a small Castilian donkey and cart which, with a man dressed in native peasant costume, proved quite a sensation. Another year she arranged for an enormous long-horn steer—horns and all—weighing a ton, to be led in the parade by its owner, dressed as a toreador. This year, baby leopards, monkeys, a curly white donkey and a baby lamb with its mother were brought down from the Fleishhacker Zoo in San Francisco for the occasion.

Other oddments of the animal kingdom marching in the parade this year were white mice, lizards, chickens, cats and birds all on express wagon floats, dogs,

a coti-mundi, goats and thirty or more horses and ponies. The parade, as usual, lined up along University Avenue, the main business section, and marched down the avenue to the veterans' building. The parade was led by an officer mounted on a motorcycle escorting an Alaskan dog team and sledge. Behind them came the Palo Alto Military Academy band, smartly turned out in full regalia, then the May Queen, a tiny miss attended by two colored attendants and her court, floats of all sorts, juvenile organizations in uniform, animals, doll buggies, wagons and tricycles, all elaborately decorated, and finally the ponies and horses. Girl and Boy Scouts kept a watchful eye upon the smaller children in the parade, lending assistance with doll buggies or fractious pets, or treating thirsty animals to generous drinks of water. Among the several thousand spectators who lined the streets to cheer and marvel and call friendly greetings to the participants, was Mrs. Herbert Hoover whose own dog, “Weegie,” was an entrant.

After the parade reached the veterans' building, the May Queen with her attendants was escorted to her place on the stage of the outdoor

theater and presented to her subjects. "Hello," quoth her small Highness as she was lifted to the microphone. This ceremony over, a program was presented by the various races of children which included songs, dances and a playlet. The May Festival is International Day for Palo Alto as well, and the festivities would not be complete unless all the several nations and colors in the community were represented in some way.

The judging of the pets, floats and wheel toys is always a serious business, but suffice it to say every owner goes home happy and satisfied, as those who do not win places in the first three classes receive ribbons proclaiming a "special award." So there are never any tears!

The Pageant Program

It is eleven o'clock by this time, and the hot dog stands, ice cream counters and luncheon booths are doing a rushing business. But as soon as the keenest edge has been taken off the appetites, crowds begin to move toward the bleachers on the lower green to witness the May Day pageant. In this sylvan setting, banked by shrubs and trees, two hundred or more children take part each year in some locally written dance drama depicting either a fanciful or an historical event. This year the idea centered around the various holidays which gather to select a holiday for all. All the dance studios in town cooperated with the Chil-

dren's Theater to make the performance a success.

After luncheon, an old time vaudeville show is presented in the open air theater. While the features of this event are usually professional performers such as magicians or jugglers, there is an added opportunity for local talent.

Everywhere on the grounds there are things for sale such as balloons, peanuts, candy, flowers and food. All one needs is a string of tickets costing a nickle each which may be exchanged for anything desired. These tickets are purchased from the central cashier, and the plan simplifies the financial system enormously. The funds cleared from the May Festival are used each year for civic betterment. Sometimes it is spent for repairs or materials for the recreation center, or for playground equipment, but always it is diverted into channels which mean happiness for the children of the community. Practically all the labor, food and other items for sale are donations, so the expenses for the event are not great. A small fee is charged for entries in the parade, for the pet show, hobby show, vaudeville and international program, but the pageant, sports and contests are free.

The festivities of the day end with games, a track meet and a dance for the older folk, and afterward everybody goes home tired but happy, leaving the field of conquest to the gardeners and the darkness. The May Festival is over for another year.

The doll buggy section of the parade, always one of the attractive features



The Community Workshop in Decatur

By

ELMER GIDEL
Workshop Director

WHEN DECATUR'S workshop started the outlook as far as equipment and supplies was concerned was far from bright. The project had, however, the advantage of paid leadership. And these leaders began at once a search for supplies with which to work. Lumber companies and yards and saw mills were visited in the pursuit of materials. Aid was sought from schools and factories and furniture was collected by the Red Cross to be repaired in the shop. Seven manual training benches and a few hand tools purchased by the Pines Community Association, the forerunner of the Community Recreation Association, were found in a garage. These tools were very helpful in starting the shop. Lumber used in crating furniture and other large articles was picked up at department stores. A load of one by four yellow pine crating ranging from two to six feet in length was bought from a junk dealer for 50 cents.

Later the shop acquired for rebuilding old furniture mahogany from the old Wabash Railroad coaches. Heavy lumber was also obtained from box cars for the building of additional benches and shop tables. Paints were donated from paint stores, and nails and glue were acquired in various ways. Two of the boys to earn money for nails helped the Junior Chamber of Commerce spread corn meal for a dance. Other boys moved and set up a band stand to secure funds for screws and bolts.

After the shop had been operating for a few months under federal emergency funds, a work relief project was approved by the Illinois Emergency Relief Commission under which the shop was able to expand its activities and to add two manual arts instructors and an upholsterer to its teaching staff. The IERC also supplied several thousand feet of yellow pine and nails, screws and glue. Ten work relief carpenters were detailed to

The Community Workshop of Decatur, Illinois, is a very important part of the program of the Community Recreation Association of the city. An outgrowth of emergency work in sewing, quilting, art, mechanical drawing, rug making, upholstering, carpentry and coping saw work, it was originally sponsored by the local chapter of the American Red Cross. It is significant that the services of the Workshop have been so important that it has become a permanent part of the local recreation movement.

help build equipment for the shop, the IERC offices and for relief clients who needed beds, tables and chairs.

At this time the shop was operated as the Community Workshop. Under the same roof was housed a sewing project. The shop enrolled work relief labor sent from the IERC office. These workers made equipment for the shop and other IERC centers. They made and repaired furniture and other articles for the homes of relief clients who received relief orders for the articles made. They also exchanged work with other men on relief who wished to repair their furniture but who were too inexperienced to do so. Each man did the work he was best able to do.

The workshop's greatest contribution to date has probably been in training men to do creditable carpentry work. They are continually encouraged to do better work and to brush up on their use of tools so that they will be better fitted to follow their trade when the opportunity presents itself.

The objective of the shop is threefold. First, it provides work relief mechanics and carpenters an opportunity to do constructive work in their respective fields. They take pride in their work and feel the "personal touch" of the shop. A second objective is to offer aid to people who receive relief and have an abundance of time on their

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Yankee Ingenuity Scores in Hartford

YANKEE ingenuity is still alive, though it long ago passed the stage of having a wooden nutmeg for a trade-mark.

It is amazing to what ends ingenuity is being exercised by the Park Department of Hartford, Connecticut, where salvaged building materials are utilized to make everything from a clothespin to a \$50,000 clubhouse. Its skilled artisans and mechanics fashion artistic drinking fountains from discarded blocks of stone and pillars of marble, cure the ailments of a balky engine with stray bits of wire and a few bolts, make rowboats out of old but sound lumber, cast iron standards for bleachers, construct buildings, create theatrical props; in fact, fabricate almost all of the park, playground and recreation apparatus and equipment.

Here is an example. A few days ago the director of boxing for the recreation division's classes was in need of several skipping ropes for his young wards. A requisition went to the workshops at Colt Park, a sturdy grade of rope selected, wooden handles shaped and attached, and the ropes delivered within a day.

Just before the holidays the director of children's drama found herself in need of a fireplace for a Christmas play.

By **JOHN M. HURLEY**
Park Department
Hartford, Connecticut

It took but a few hours for the workshop crew to make one from odd bits of wood and red paper.

When the architect's plans call-

ed for a cupola atop the new swimming pool at Colt Park, men in the Park Department found one already made that took but little labor to reshape to measure. It had been ordered a few years before for another building but not used. Instead of being discarded, it had been saved.

Twenty years ago, when the present municipal building was being erected, two large columns of Barre marble were ordered but rejected when flaws were discovered in them. They were stored in Colt Park until last summer when George Hollister, Superintendent of Parks, realized their possibilities, and in a few days a veteran Barre, Vermont, marble cutter, a resident of the city, was at work hand carving the pillars into sections that became attractive drinking fountains for the parks.

There is hardly a useful stick or a stone thrown away by the city that the Park Department does not examine for possible salvage uses. This is especially true of old, unused buildings razed on city owned property.

New Buildings from Old

A few years ago, when Hartford acquired a fine new fed-

At a time when much is being heard about spending on a vast scale, it is refreshing to learn of the measures which are being taken in a New England city to effect large saving through using salvaged materials.

eral building, the city obtained title to the old post office which it replaced. The old building was demolished but parts of it today will be found in many new structures. The floor of the new tool house at Colt Park was formerly the first floor of the former post office. Some of the marble is to be found in the shower rooms at the Keney golf house. Some of the old lumber made shuffleboard discs. All the old stairways, both circular and straight, have been used again. So have a great many other materials.

In the last two years, chiefly with CWA and FERA assistance, no less than a dozen such structures which had outlived their usefulness have been leveled. In the manner of the farmer who used every part of the pig but the squeal, the Park Department salvaged practically everything in the buildings except the concrete and mortar. From these old materials truly amazing results have been achieved. They provided at least 60 per cent of the materials that went into the construction of nine new municipally owned structures, including a \$50,000 golf club house at Keney Park, a lawn bowling club house at Elizabeth Park, a recreation house at Pope Park, a combination tool house and storage shed at Elizabeth Park, bath houses at the new Colt Park swimming pool, a garage and two storehouses at Colt Park, and a new two-car garage.

These buildings represent an estimated valuation of \$135,000 and were erected by means of FERA labor and salvaged materials at a cost to the city of about \$20,000. They are what might be called only the major uses of the salvage, including all the brick, as well as a great part of the slate, doors, windows, joists, rafters, roofers, and rough flooring.

Everything Possible Salvaged

Not even old plumbing is all thrown away, for the pipes are shaped into quoit stakes, rope stan-

dards and the like. Every pane of glass is saved, for it is a simple matter to recut them into new sizes. Old timber cleared from the heavy forests of Keney and Batterson Parks has its new uses. Frequently forest trees die which can be saved for lumber. Young saplings and bushes that are commonly regarded as waste underbrush often are replanted in the department's nursery for cultivation and use in landscaping work. Even the leaves that fall from the trees are saved to make leaf mold or compost.

The very buildings that house the skilled crew of carpenters, blacksmiths, painters, stone masons, electricians and iron workers, every one chosen for his skill in a particular craft, were constructed by the men. All through the year they labor, and the output of their lathes and smithy are almost beyond comprehension.

A trip through the workshop and storehouse is revealing. Racks, shelves, barrels, boxes and bins hold every conceivable gadget that might be needed in park and recreation work. There are thousands of nails, screws, nuts, bolts and sundry appurtenances segregated according to size; shelves of newly painted signs of warning and direction; knotted ropes and iron stand for giant swings; frames for playground apparatus; tables, chairs, life-size doll houses and doll furniture; Cape Cod furniture, benches, settees, bleachers, even row-boats; sand boxes, picnic tables, steel picks for spiking debris, checker boards, pool tables, waste and paper baskets, wooden paddles for paddle tennis, "potatoes" for potato races, slides, seesaws, music stands, and huge flood lights for night activities.

Thus the Hartford Park Department has made economy its watchword and the use of salvaged material an important feature of planning in its recreation program.

The brick, rough lumber, panelling and oak trusses taken from an old Orphan Asylum owned by a School District have been used in the construction of Keney Park's beautiful new golf club house. About \$7,500 was made available for the purchase of other material used in the building.



The Recreational Background of Our Transient Boys

By
GEORGE E. OUTLAND
and
H. M. EADS

THE FORMATION of an adequate program of recreation has been one of the problems facing the Federal Transient Service since its beginning. Food, shelter, clothing, medical care—these were basic, but provision for leisure time activity was necessary too if the wanderers of the road were to be stabilized to any degree.

When attempts were first made to establish a recreational program in the lodges and camps of the Boys Welfare Department for Southern California there was encountered, in addition to lack of adequate personnel and equipment, an attitude of listlessness and indifference on the part of many of the boys themselves. This attitude astonished the recreation leaders, many of whom were heard to remark to the effect that "they don't know how to play." The feeling seemed to be quite prevalent that these wandering youngsters were different from ordinary boys in this respect, and that, doubtless due to the economic and social environments from which they had come, they had not participated in the normal play activities of youth.

In order to ascertain objectively the types and amount of recreation which migrant boys have had, the present study was made of 347 boys under care of the Boys Welfare Department of Southern California in August 1935. The study was supervised by the recreation director of each unit, and was conducted by the questionnaire method. No boy was required to fill out the blank, although it was requested that all of those willing to do so be as complete and serious as possible in answering the questions. It was not possible to reach all of the boys under care, but it is felt that the 347 who filled in the blanks were representative of the group as a whole. These 347 boys represented all sections of the United States, with only Maryland, Nevada, North Dakota, Dela-

"In addition to various types of work projects, the community program should include provision for recreation and leisure time activities for individuals and groups. A lounge and reading room, library books, magazines, writing materials, handicraft shops, recreation fields or gymnasiums providing for vigorous, competitive sports, all will serve to improve health and morale."—From *Rules and Regulations Number 8, Government Organization and Operation of Transient Service Bureaus*.

ware, Maine, and Wyoming omitted. As might have been expected ¹ Texas led the way with 57 boys, while other states in the double figure column were Pennsylvania 26, Illinois 24, Oklahoma 23, New York 17, Ohio 14, Missouri 13, Louisiana 12, Kansas 10.

Showing That Transient Boys Have Played

The results are extremely interesting, especially to those workers who have felt that transient boys have never played. As portrayed in Table I, all but 27 of the 347 boys had participated in some form of organized group recreation before taking to the road. In other words, 92.2 percent had so participated. Furthermore, 70.6 percent of this group had been active in two or more different types of organized recreation.

TABLE I

		Percent
a. Boys participating in one or more group...	320	92.2
b. Boys not participating in any recreation....	27	7.8
Total.....	347	100
c. Boys participating in two or more groups...	272	70.6
d. Boys participating in only one group.....	75	29.4
Total.....	347	100

¹ George E. Outland "Sources of Transient Boys," *Sociology and Social Research*, Vol. XIX, No. 5, May-June 1935, pages 429-434.

Table II portrays the general types of group recreation indulged in by the boys before becoming transient. As might be expected, participation on athletic teams leads the way; in fact, approximately 68 percent of the boys had played on one or more athletic teams in high school, college, or semi-professionally. Those two favorite sports of American boys everywhere, football and baseball, led the list with 125 and 119 participants respectively. Basketball is close behind with 83, and then comes a sharp falling off to Track and Field 29, Indoor Baseball 23, and Swimming 23. The details of this phase of recreational background are found in Table III.

TABLE II
Numbers and Percentage of boys in organized recreation groups

1. Athletic Teams	236	68 %
2. Church Clubs	157	45.1%
3. Boy Scouts	126	36.3%
4. High School Clubs	122	35.1%
5. Musical Organizations	91	26.2%
6. Y.M.C.A. or Y.M.H.A.	84	24.2%
7. Playground Groups	82	23.7%
8. Boys Clubs	66	19 %
9. Miscellaneous	30	8.6%
10. Fraternal Organizations	28	8 %
11. Four-H Clubs	26	7.5%
12. Settlement House Groups	8	2 %

TABLE III
Athletic Teams

1. Football	125	10. Volley Ball	7
2. Baseball	119	11. Wrestling	5
3. Basketball	83	12. Tumbling	4
4. Track and Field	29	13. Golf	3
5. Swimming	23	14. Hockey	3
6. Indoor Baseball	23	15. Bowling	2
7. Boxing	17	16. Polo	1
8. Tennis	11	17. Handball	1
9. Soccer	8		

Contrary to what might be expected by the average citizen, church groups come second only to athletics in the types of organized group recreation participated in by young transients. One hundred and fifty-seven boys had belonged to some young people's group connected with the church. B.Y.P.U. led the way with 46, followed by the Epworth League, Catholic Clubs, and Christian Endeavor. Many boys mentioned that they had belonged to church social groups without specifying either the denomination or the particular type of club with which they had been affiliated.

One hundred twenty-six, or 36.6 percent of the boys, had been members of Boy Scout troops in their home communities. When it is remembered that many of these boys come from rural or mountain districts where the existence of Scout troops is problematical, it can be seen that this figure is quite high. Fourteen boys wrote in that

they had been patrol leaders; seven others mentioned that they had belonged to the Sea Scouts.

The fact that 122 boys had belonged to one or more high school recreational groups throws light not only on the recreational background of these young migrants but also on the amount of formal schooling they had before taking to the road. Studies have already shown² that our young transients have a formal education that compares favorably with that of American boys as a whole, and here is further corroboration of that fact. Table V shows the different kinds of high school clubs to which these boys had belonged. Dramatic, Language, Science, and HiY groups top the list, but twenty-six different types are represented in this field.

TABLE IV
High School Clubs

1. Dramatic	24	14. Red Cross	1
2. Language	21	15. Bird Study	1
3. Science	12	16. Slide Rule	1
4. HiY	12	17. History	1
5. Letter Men	7	18. Stamp Collecting	1
6. Debating	5	19. Spelling	1
7. Hiking	3	20. Nature Study	1
8. Literary	2	21. Acrobatic	1
9. Chess	2	22. Journalism	1
10. Aviation	1	23. Health	1
11. Motion Picture	1	24. Checkers	1
12. Camera	1	25. Agriculture	1
13. Gun	1	26. Newspaper	1

Of especial interest is the fact that 91 boys, or slightly more than one-fourth of the entire group, had formerly belonged to some kind of musical organization. Glee club, orchestra, choir, and band had been a part of the background of 26.2 percent of the boys studied. Such a fact, more than perhaps any other, should serve to fix once and for all in the minds of the American public that the young "bums" whom they see plodding along the highways and clinging to the tops of freight trains are not abnormal specimens, but normal American boys, who have been forced to take to the open road in an attempt to get a start in life in this most abnormal period of our history.

TABLE V
Musical Organizations

1. Glee Club	51	4. Band	16
2. Choir	20	5. Drum and Bugle Corps	5
3. Orchestra	17	6. Male Quartet	2

The other general groupings need little comment. Large numbers of transient boys have formerly belonged to either the Young Men's Christian or Hebrew Association, to Boys Clubs, and

² George E. Outland "The Education of Transient Boys," *School and Society*, Vol. 40, No. 1033, October 13, 1934, page 501; "The Educational Background of Migrant Boys," *School Review*, Vol. XLIII, No. 9, November 1935, page 683.

(Continued on page 45)

Why Do I Have a Garden?

By JOHN MASON WELLS

Hillsdale College

**A gardener asks himself
"why," and finds a thor-
oughly satisfying answer**

"Gardening is nothing except good hard work," many people will tell you. But here is a man who finds in gardening very real spiritual satisfaction and genuine recreation. His analysis of why this is so will be interesting not only to those for whom gardening is a fascinating hobby, but also to those who hold the "hard work" theory!

AS I DON my old clothes from day to day to work for an hour or more in my garden I find myself asking, "Why do I do this?" Some of my friends tell me that the vegetables, berries and fruit that I get might better be bought in the market.

Some years we are annoyed by the abundance of the yield. I am embarrassed in selling it—a thing I seldom do—because I suppose it seems out of harmony with my professional life. In giving it away I meet with certain difficulties. Possibly I am giving my friends something they do not want and then, too, it takes time to carry about these things. If we cannot use them and if there are obstacles in the way of distributing them to our friends, the only other alternative is to let them decay. And this gives me an uncomfortable feeling.

The difficulty of abundance has not troubled me this year. My trees have borne very little fruit, my vines almost no berries and my vegetables have been very few. And yet I continue to work in my garden. Why do I do it? Why do I not learn from experience and from the advice of my friends that it is unprofitable and futile to attempt in my spare time to have a garden?

I have been trying to answer these questions for myself during the past few days while cutting away the dead branches from my blackberry bushes and mowing the weeds from the place where I am supposed to have strawberry plants. The answers may be of interest to others. I think they are honest answers; at least they are the ones given by myself to myself.

My New England blood and boyhood experience have imparted to my character the element of thrift. I am moved by an inner necessity to produce from the acre of land that surrounds my house all that I can in the time at my disposal. On this land there are several old apple trees. The dead wood and multitude of branches that burdened these trees when we took possession of the place troubled my spirit. Since then they have been trimmed and sprayed several times. My motive in this was not chiefly treetarian, nor was it entirely aesthetic. I was thinking of the delicious fruit that would hang from these branches some time in the future.

The same motive influenced me in respect to blackberries and vegetables. Here was a jungle of blackberry vines—why not make it yield berries, large and juicy? Here was good soil—why not let it produce potatoes, sweet corn, tomatoes, eggplants and other vegetables?

Closely related to this motive of thrift is the element of creativeness. To join hands with nature in producing good and lovely things brings to me a large measure of satisfaction. I get a different reaction from working with the forces of nature than I do in working with people. I like to work with both, and because they impress me differently I gain an enrichment of life from nature that I would be deprived of should some evil genius take away my garden.

Nature is dependable and when my apples are gnarly or wormy, or the trees bear no fruit, I know the fault is not with the trees. Either I have blundered or some of the other agents of

nature have failed in doing their part. Every growing thing has its own characteristics, and if I knew how better to work with it then it would yield me better fruit.

My garden stimulates in me an inquiring mind. While in her midst I am mentally alert. Failure and success have a meaning. This was the right thing to do or that was the wrong.

There is a joy in successful gardening that is known only to those who are friends of nature. The feeling of the enthusiastic gardener who has uncovered a large hill of good-sized potatoes or who holds in his hand a basket of beautiful strawberries can be shared and understood only by those who delight to cooperate with nature in its creative processes.

Another motive is aesthetic. Beauty, especially the phases of beauty I have had the privilege of helping to create, brings me a large measure of satisfaction. At the west of the house were many shrubs that had evidently been set out by different people at different times and in the places where fancy directed. By providing a large trellis for a crimson rambler, by moving a few of the lilac bushes, and by pruning and training the grape vines we have built a kind of outdoor room. It is far from perfect. I did not have the heart to cut a small apple tree that grows in the center and there are bridal wreath, flowering almond, Japanese hydrangea, roses and other shrubs as well as a cluster of goldenrod that are not located where they ought to be. However, it is an attractive room even though it is cluttered up with too many ornaments. In the places where rhubarb grew and where the sod was especially poor I now have flower beds—peonies, gladioli and zinnias. At the rear of the house where ashes and rubbish had been thrown we now have, inside a border of peonies, iris, gladioli, verbena, salvia, calendula and snap dragons. It is a shady spot but by pruning the apple and peach trees rather severely we have made openings through which the sunlight can enter. Near the porch, at the southeast corner of the house, grew some neglected hollyhocks, rose bushes and a Madeira vine; a little training, fertilizing and pruning have made these beautiful.

To me vegetables are also beautiful and it has seemed to me to be within the bounds of good taste to place at the head of the garden several rows of iris and to have in the heart of the garden long rows of cannas and dahlias.

It is not necessary to add that this garden provides the opportunity and the motive for wholesome exercise which contributes to my good health. Some like golf and others prefer fishing, but I like the garden for wholesome exercise.

Another benefit which my garden bestows upon me may be termed mental and spiritual. I have faced during the past few years many problems. Some of these had to do with philosophical and religious questions, and others were of a very personal nature. Solutions often come to me when I am mentally relaxed. While planting, cultivating or gathering fruit and vegetables, light often shines into my mind and clarifies some of the perplexing paths of life.

"Can anything new be said about gardening? Yes, just as every sunrise is a new wonder and every sunset a new glory of experience, so every spring is a promise and every summer a revelation. Now that the active days are nearing a close, when digging and fertilizing and planting are done, what more conducive of leisure than to sit back and wait. They'll never grow. My garden will be a failure. I must have done something wrong. What's the use of breaking one's back? It's so chilly and wet. Fool! Think with your eyes beneath the soil. Within that slender stalk, in the crotch of that frail little shoot of green, is a magic that will put all the prattle of your conjuror to shame. Or are you merely playing conjuror yourself, keeping up the barrage of words so that your itching, eager little ego will not see how it was you brought such marvelous bloom into your garden? For lo—there it is—the profit of an aching leisure—*Ageratum*, *Calendula*, *Cosmos*, *Coreopsis*."—*Sydney Greenbie in Leisure*, June 1935.

"Besides its own unique gift of health and happiness, growing things in leisure time has the same moral values that belong to craftsmanship. It takes the nonsense out of you, and the egoism. It makes you settle down and work patiently with things as they are. It brings home, as nothing else does, that august law which, in the Orient, they think is the foundation of all ethics—the law that every act has a consequence, that whatever happens to you today follows, as the night the day, from something you did formerly."—*Marjorie B. Greenbie in The Arts of Leisure*.

WORLD AT PLAY



Courtesy National Parks of Canada

Large Sports Center in Los Angeles

THROUGH the generosity of the Anita Baldwin Estate, thirty acres of land on which will be developed Los Angeles' largest sports and recreation center were granted recently to the municipality for use as a public playground. The new area will make possible the establishment of a regional recreation center which will serve a vast territory in western and southwestern Los Angeles. As funds become available it is planned to construct an exhibition football field with a seating capacity of 5,000, a municipal baseball park with seats for 2,500, a battery of twelve tennis courts, a municipal swimming pool and bath house, a community club house and gymnasium, athletic fields for football, baseball, softball, soccer and other sports, children's playgrounds, an archery range, and many other recreational facilities.

Recreation in Toledo

THE Division of Recreation, Department of Public Works, Toledo, Ohio, (Gordon Jeffery, Recreation Commissioner) has issued a report urging the development of a working plan for the city and the Board of Education to conduct a joint recreational program. The report contains a study of the city's recreational activities since 1925 when twelve playgrounds were operated. In 1935 there were

38 playgrounds—24 on city property, 7 on school grounds and 7 on semi-public or private grounds. In addition, the city operates 11 play fields. Eleven new and old fields are being developed with WPA funds. The city will eventually have 84 softball diamonds, 22 baseball diamonds and 65 tennis courts. It is hoped that funds will be provided to complete WPA projects for swimming pools and for the development of bay areas for bathing and boating.

Demonstration Nights in Sioux City

EACH playground in Sioux City, Iowa, during the sixth week of the season held a demonstration night for parents to see what activities were being conducted on the playgrounds for their children. Many of the activities were presented on these occasions including horseshoes, jacks, hop scotch, loop tennis, paddle tennis, ring tennis, sand play, singing games, and folk dancing. The handicraft projects were on display during the entire sessions. During the summer season each playground had a community night every two weeks when skits, plays and pantomimes were presented. A total of 75 plays were loaned out through the department in charge and 50 were produced on the playgrounds. Hand puppets and marionettes were made and many clever puppet plays were given.

Ping Pong on a Large Scale—Battle Creek, Michigan, has a ping pong club of approximately 150 members who pay dues of \$1.50 a month. The club rents a large room in an office building where eight ping pong tables have been installed. There are four leagues which hold numerous tournaments. The room is open all day, including Sundays.

Tennis Instruction in Wilkes-Barre—Free tennis instruction was offered during the summer months on all public courts from 9:00 o'clock until 1:00 P.M., FERA workers providing the instruction. The association furnished four rackets and some balls but for the most part the children provided their own equipment. Each child was allowed not more than four lessons and only one hour on the courts each morning. After 1:00 o'clock a charge of five cents an hour was made for those using the courts, and no children were permitted after 4:00 o'clock.

Recreation in a Housing Development—The February issue of *The American City* reports that the Buhl Foundation of Pittsburgh has announced the dedication for recreational purposes of 27 acres of hillside woodland in connection with its large scale model housing project, Chatham Village. This is to be a permanent area for recreation and nature study for the community of 197 families. Work has been started upon the modernization of an ancient twelve room homestead located at the entrance to the woodland to be used as the Village Club, already actively organized into discussion groups, dramatic, arts and crafts and bridge units, and garden and mothers' clubs entirely under the management of the tenants themselves. These facilities, together with tennis courts, a regulation mush-ball field, volley ball and indoor basketball courts and a summer time nursery play school, will give Chatham Villagers a program of recreational and social facilities. "This development," the article states, "is not a philanthropic but an economically justified addition to the Village's social facilities."

Croquet Growing in Popularity—The croquet courts were among the most popular spots on the playgrounds of Salem, Oregon,

last summer, and the game appealed to children as young as eight years of age as well as to adults.

College Sponsors Contests—The Alabama State College for Women at Montevallo, Alabama, is sponsoring a number of state-wide recreational events and contests for the spring of 1936, including a girls' play day, a music contest, and a contest in speech and play production.

An Uptown Recreational Center in Pueblo—The February 13th issue of "Recreation Record," published by the Pueblo, Colorado, Recreation Commission, tells of a new uptown recreation center located in one of the large business buildings of the city. The new center will be controlled by an association and members will pay dues of \$1.40 a year, payable quarterly. The money will be deposited in the treasury of the Pueblo Recreation Commission but will be used only for paying the expenses of the center.

Training Courses for Girl Scout Leaders—A series of training courses have been scheduled for Girl Scout leaders in Westchester County, New York. Courses will be held for new leaders, experienced leaders and those interested in Brownie training. Anyone interested in securing information regarding this series of courses may obtain it by writing the Westchester County Girl Scouts, Inc., County Office Building, White Plains, New York, in care of Miss Alice Conway.

Prompt Action Brings Results—Prompt action last summer on the part of public-spirited citizens made it possible for the children of Cincinnati, Ohio, to enjoy their playgrounds, play streets and swimming buildings until school opened. Public play facilities were closed on August 16th because the Public Recreation Commission had no funds with which to continue operations. Six thousand dollars was needed to keep the play areas open. Working with Tam Deering, recreation executive, Albert H. Morrill, president of the Kroger Grocery and Baking Company, sent telegrams to twenty-five business and civic leaders urging them to subscribe \$250 each. In a short time \$10,050 had been received.

National Music Week—The National Music Week Committee announces that the thirteenth National Music Week will be held May 3rd to 9th. The slogan will be "Strengthen Our Musical Resources," and it is hoped that Music Week will help in fostering those of the local communities' music activities which are most in need of being strengthened and in determining what further enterprises seem advisable for the future. Literature regarding Music Week may be secured from the National Music Week Committee, 45 West 45th Street, New York City. It is hoped that recreation commissions and similar groups will cooperate this year, as they have in the past, in making the National Music Week a means of enriching the music program of communities throughout the country.

Children's Outings Popular — During the summer months a total of 800 Union County children enjoyed the free outings sponsored by the Union County Park, New Jersey, Local No. 73, State Patrolmen's Benevolent Association. The outings were all held at Rahway River Park with swimming, games and luncheon included. One of the aims of these outings was to develop a better understanding and a friendlier feeling between the children and the police officers.

National Conference of Social Work—The sixty-third annual meeting of the National Conference of Social Work will be held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, May 24th to 30th. The four conference sections will cover social case work, social group work, community organization and social action. Further information may be secured from Howard R. Knight, General Secretary, National Conference of Social Work, 82 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio.

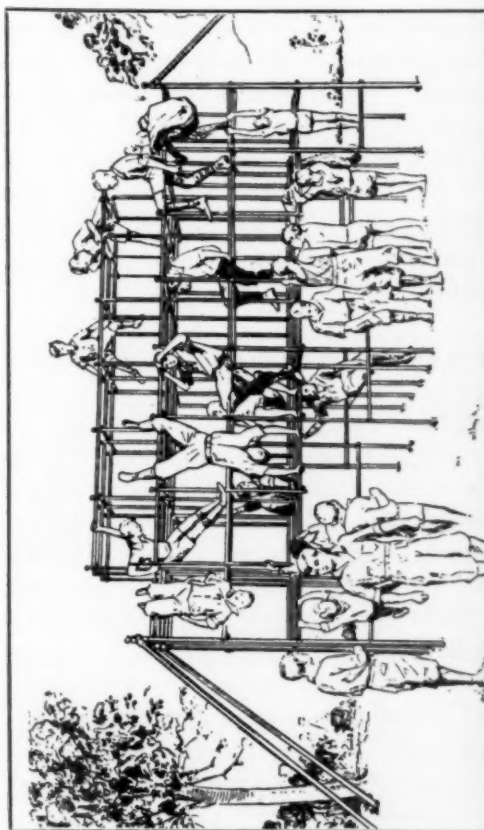
Women's Division, N. A. A. F. to Hold Annual Meeting—The Women's Division of the National Amateur Athletic Federation will hold its annual meeting on April 15th in connection with the meeting of the American Physical Education Association to be held at St. Louis, Missouri. There will be a general business and program meeting open to all leaders in the field of physical education and recreation concerned with the place of girls' athlet-

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ics and their standards. A number of speakers will present phases of the subject, "An N. A. A. F. Overview of Recreational Trends," presenting youth movements of today and the relation of N. A. A. F. to them. On Friday evening, April 17th, there will be an informal supper at which reports of the activities of the special committees of the Women's Division will be presented.

Shut-Ins and Recreation—In 1929 plans for providing a program for shut-ins were inaugurated by the East Orange, New Jersey, Board of Recreation Commissioners. Today there are 125 shut-ins whom the Recreation Council for Shut-ins of the Oranges and Maplewood are serving. The program consists of regular deliveries of flowers, books, magazines and small gifts. Instruction in handcraft is given by teachers furnished by the ERA and WPA. Twice a year an exhibit of work done by the shut-ins is held and articles are placed on sale. Many of the civic organizations of the Oranges are represented on the council which meets regularly in the office of the Recreation Commission.

Snow Sculpture Contests in New York—Nature smiled upon the Park Department of New York City in its plan to hold snow sculpture contests. January snows provided plenty of material with which to work. Many and varied were the projects which the children undertook. In selecting the winners the judges considered subject and matter, skill and workmanship, originality and conformity to the rules of the contest.

Shell Rowing in Long Beach—Following the Olympic Games in California, the Long Beach Recreation Commission purchased the German shells and fostered the organization of the Long Beach Rowing Club, which has inaugurated a program including school, club, recreational and adult crews. The school program this year includes definite classes in crew which carry physical education credit in four secondary schools. Girls' crews have been carried on with practically the same program of instruction as is given the boys except that all competition is eliminated. Objectives other than competition have been found, including such activities as picnics. Prerequisites to crew activity include swimmers' and physical examination. During the past year there has been an attendance of over 48,000 in the crews. This figure includes 105 men and women rowing in the evening classes.

South-Wide Leisure Time Conference—The third annual South-Wide Leisure Time Conference will be held at Scarritt and Peabody Colleges, Nashville, Tennessee, May 11th to 15th. The program this year will stress leadership for community coordination of leisure, rural recreation, and the emphasis will be put on dramatics. The conference will provide opportunity for a discussion of trends and methods of planning. There will be opportunities to learn new skills and time for special interest groups and fellowship meetings.

A Folk Dance Festival—Four hundred dancers will participate in the tenth annual folk dance festival of the English Folk Dance Society of America which will take place on April 25th at 2:30 o'clock at the Seventh Regiment Armory, New York City. Morris dancing, sword dancing and massed country dancing will be included in the program. As a special feature of this year's festival an original birthday ballet has been arranged to celebrate the twenty-first anniversary of the founding of the Society. Historical folk dance steps and figures have been combined in the bal-

let which will have a medley of folk dance tunes as its accompaniment. An exhibition of the famous Flamborough sword dance in which long swords are used will be presented. Further information may be secured from the English Folk Dance Society of America, 235 East 22nd Street, New York City.

Playing in the Parks of New York

(Continued from page 5)

and over 21. There should first be an intra-tournament conducted on all playgrounds where there are handball courts, followed by an inter-playground contest for the championship. Medals awarded)

Horseshoe pitching tournament, singles and doubles—April and May
(For boys and young men over 16 years of age. Medals awarded)

Presentation of one act plays—April, May and June
(For girls from 10 to 14 years of age, with finals in June on the Mall in Central Park)

Marble shooting contest—April and May
(For boys and girls under 12 years of age, local tournaments to be held in each borough with five children selected to send to the finals)

Harmonica contest—April and May
(It is recommended that each borough organize a harmonica band; finals to be held on the Mall. Medals will be awarded.)

Model boat sailing demonstrations at local wading pools—April and May

Paddle tennis tournament—April, May and June
(For boys and girls under 16 years of age. An intra-playground activity)

Quartet contest—May
(For schools above high school grade and colleges)

Field hockey for girls—May, June, September and October
(Local tournaments for girls under 17 years)

Barber shop quartet contest—May and June
(Eliminations will take place in the boroughs and finals will be held)

Folk dance contest—June
(For girls between 10 and 12, 12 and 14, and 14 and 16. Each borough will enter three groups according to ages. No group to contain less than 12 or more than 16 participants)

Twilight baseball—May, June and July
(For boys and young men over 16 years)

Children's pet shows—April and May

Children's festivals and pageants—June

Athletic meet—May

Model yacht and motor boat races—May
(For boys under 16 years)

Punchball tournament—June, July and August
(For girls under 16 years)

Swimming meets—July and August

Baseball tournament—June, July and August
(For boys under 16 years and not more than 5' 6" in height. A city-wide contest, with medals awarded winners at finals to be held in September)

Softball tournament—July and August
(For boys from 16 to 19 and over 19 years of age; local tournaments)



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Checker tournament—July and August
(Intra-playground tournament, with no medals, for children under 16 years)

Jacks contest—August
(For girls under 16 years. This will be both an intra-playground and inter-playground tournament with a city-wide championship)

Venetian water carnival—September

Folk dance festival for adults—September
(Representatives from all boroughs will attend)

Boccie contest—September

Amateur contest for children, including singing and the playing of musical instruments—July, August and September

(Eliminations will be conducted in each borough during July and August, with finals in September on the Mall)

Harvest festival—October
(Representatives from all boroughs will attend)

Roller skating carnivals—October
(It is recommended that each borough conduct its own roller skating carnival)

Hallowe'en roller skating carnival—October
(Skaters will appear in costume at the carnival to be held on the Mall)

City-wide handcraft exhibit—October
(Boroughs will conduct their own local exhibitions and submit the best exhibits to the finals)

Magazines and Pamphlets

(Recently Received Containing Articles
of Interest to the Recreation Worker)

MAGAZINES

- New Jersey Municipalities*, February 1936
Parks and Recreation, by F. S. Mathewson
- Parks and Recreation*, February 1936
Landscape Conservation—Planning the Recreational Use of Our Wild Lands, by Dr. Frank A. Waugh
Windermere Tidal Pool at Burrard Inlet, Vancouver, by A. S. Wootton
Modern Music Bowl at Stanley Park, Vancouver, B. C., by A. S. Wootton
- The American City*, February 1936
For More Beaches in Public Ownership
Recreation Area Added to Foundation's Successful Housing Development
City Park and Street Improvements in Kansas Counties
- The Camping Magazine*, February 1936
Camping and Education, by Marie M. Ready
The American Hostel Trail, by Florence Colton and Helen Conley
Planning Camp Structures, by Julian Harris Salomon
- The Junior-Senior High School Clearing House*, February 1936
Play as a Way of Life, by Forrest E. Long
The Spirit of Play in Education, by Ellsworth Collings
Play's the Thing, by Alice V. Keliher
Hobby Clubs in the South Pasadena Junior High Schools, by G. Derwood Baker
Recreation and Youth, by Arthur Henry Moehlman
Directing Play as a Civic Function, by Weaver W. Pangburn
Hobby Booklist, by Thelma Eaton
- Hygeia*, March 1936
Safety Games for Baltimore Children, by Bertha M. Schools

PAMPHLETS

- A Manual for Instructors in Civilian Conservation Corps Camps*
U. S. Office of Education, Washington, D. C.
Price \$1.00
- The Annual Report of the Bureau of Recreation of Philadelphia*, 1935
- Coordinating Councils—Report of a Brief Study*, by Frances H. Hiller
National Probation Association, New York City
- Report of the Director of Emergency Conservation Work—April 1933—June 1935*
U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.
- A Statement on Public Recreation for the Year 1935 in Plainfield, N. J.*
- Twenty-ninth Annual Report of the Board of Recreation Commissioners of East Orange, N. J.*, 1935
- Report of the Bureau of Recreation of Pittsburgh, Pa.*, for 1935
- Adult Education Bulletin*
S.E.R.A., St. Cloud, Minn.
- Facts About Juvenile Delinquency—Its Prevention and Treatment*, 1935
U. S. Department of Labor, Children's Bureau, Washington, D. C. Price \$.05

Amateur newspaper contest for children—November
(Boroughs will submit several issues of their five best playground newspapers for judging)

Christmas festivals—December 20—December 25
(Local festivals)

A Puppet Trailer

(Continued from page 12)

The scrolled apron or skirting around lower edge of the sides can also be covered with conventional designs to add color and trim.

Handling

After a performance, or when it is desired to move the equipment, the stage frame is unbolted from the extension floor and moved back to a point within the superstructure where it should be again bolted down so it will not shift or shake about. The curtain tops are folded back. The extension floor is dropped down to the side, and a section, made up of ply wood to match the rest of the side, is put into place to completely close up the 8' opening in the superstructure.

For convenience, it is desirable to construct a portable step or series of steps to lead from ground to rear door, for use of manipulators, which can be carried within the trailer when moving from place to place.

The Cost

Equipment as described costs very little for materials. A chassis, if it can be procured from a car wrecking concern, will cost from \$1.00 to \$5.00.

Chassis cost, not including tires.....	\$ 5.00
Lumber for framing, floor foundation and flooring.....	10.00
Three-ply wood for sides	6.75
Hardware (nails, screws, bolts, hinges and braces)	2.50
Sateen for top curtains and for across top of stage.....	7.00
Stage curtain and lining material.....	3.75

Total cost, not including tires.....\$35.00

Youth Week on a Newark Playground

(Continued from page 14)

the dance period. Attendance soared to over 600 on this night, which brought the Youth Week program to a close.

There were incidents connected with the program which are worthy of note. The first was the acquisition of a new large American flag which was flown every day on the playground flag pole. Playground spirit was further aroused by the acquiring of a tract of ground next to the school which was named the playground garden. Seeds were obtained from the central office and dis-

tributed among members who were allotted sections of the ground. Some of the children obtained additional seeds and supplied whatever garden equipment they could find. In a day or two the playground garden was a beehive of activity. At present there are 34 boys and girls who are cultivating baby gardens, and the calm of a quiet day is often broken by a sudden cry of joy as some young gardener discovers the green of a plant breaking through the ground.

When we came to take stock of our week, we found that almost 2,000 boys and girls had taken part in a program full of sustained interest which has carried over into our regular playground program.

Creation in Clay

(Continued from page 19)

done by pulling out the clay from within the lump—the nose, the ears, the chin, and all details that are to be drawn out and into form by the fingers.

One should pay careful attention to the general contour—the mass—of the head that is to be copied. The clay is first molded around the upright in this general shape—round, oval, and square are the general head types.

The human head will be seen to divide into three main divisions; the upper part down to the eyes, the middle section to the mouth, and the lower section down to and including the chin. After the clay has been shaped to the type of head that is being modeled, these divisions should be roughly defined in the clay. The position of the ears then should be marked in the approximate position that they occupy on the head. This forms the first step in the modeling which should be followed by recognition of the various planes of surface. Closing one eye and viewing the head to be modeled through the half-closed lid of the other eye will usually show these planes more clearly. These then should be shaped in the clay—the broad flat or rounded plane of the forehead, the general triangular sweep of the cheeks, concave or convex as the case may be, to the chin. This latter forms a small plane, flat, rounded or dimpled. Forming the position of the cheek bones in the clay and the angle of the jawbone completes the first stage of modeling the head, called by the sculptor "roughing in" the mass. The clay is then carried back in round surfaces or in planes, according to the head that is being copied, to form the neck.

For May Day and Other Spring Celebrations

Operettas and Song Plays

Cinderella—folk-tune operetta by Katherine K. Davis—without spoken dialogue in 3 acts; 5 principals; chorus. Price, \$.60. E. C. Schirmer Music Co., 221 Columbus Avenue, Boston, Mass.

Hansel and Gretel—an adaptation of Humperdinck's opera by Berta Elsmith. Piano-vocal score, \$1.50. Time 1½ hours; 3 acts and 3 scenes; 5 principals and choruses. C. C. Birchard and Co., 221 Columbus Avenue, Boston, Mass. Requirements for performance: purchase of 5 copies of the piano-vocal score; royalty fee of \$5.00 where admission is charged.

Robin Hood—a play with music by Kate S. Page. Piano-vocal score \$.75; 16 characters; chorus. E. C. Schirmer Music Co., Boston. Requirements: purchase of one copy of vocal score for each soloist and every member of the chorus taking part in the performance.

Pageants and Festivals

The Conspiracy of Spring—Mary S. Edgar. A May Day or any spring day entertainment. The Nature Sprites and the flowers sing and dance as they endeavor to win the Earth Mortal's homage to Spring. 18 little girls. 45 minutes. Royalty \$2.00. The Womans Press, 600 Lexington Avenue, New York City. \$.35.

Country Fair, Suggestions for a—included in the second installment of an article entitled "Ways to Musical Good Fortune" appearing in the March issue of RECREATION. Available in reprint form from the National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York City. \$.10.

A Day at Nottingham—Constance D Mackay. A festival based on the theme of Robin Hood. Large groups of children may be used. Obtainable from National Recreation Association. \$.15.

Festivals for Music Week and Other Weeks—includes suggestions for the celebration of Music Week, observed the first week in May, through festivals of choirs, secular mixed choruses, men's, women's and children's choruses. National Recreation Association. \$.15.

Heigh-ho for a Merry Spring—suggestions for a simple but effective spring festival produced with only three days' preparation at the annual Farm and Home Week at Ithaca in 1935. Contains complete directions for songs and dances. National Recreation Association, \$.15.

May Day Echoes—Marion Holbrook. A pageant-play for the grades and junior school. Roman Floralia, Old English and modern May Day episodes are included. National Recreation Association. \$.15.

A May Festival. A ceremonial of the Crowning of the May Queen, with dances, archery or javelin throwing, etc. As many as 150 characters may be used. The Womans Press, New York. \$.25.

Mother Nature's Carnival—Mildred Olive Honors. 30 girls and 5 boys; more if desired. 1 or 2 acts as desired. Simple music and dancing. Two little "earth children" attend Mother Nature's spring carnival. Their experiences with the other guests—the flowers, bumblebees, butterflies, grasshoppers, and many more are woven into a real story. The Womans Press. \$.35.

The Sleeping Princess—A May Day Masque of Many Lands—Dorothy Gladys Spicer. Around the theme of the Princess who fell asleep for a hundred years, and who was awakened at the end of that time by the kiss of the handsome Prince, is fashioned a charming May Day revel showing the ways in which the various European countries celebrate the awakening of the Princess—or Spring. Good for presentation by high

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schools and colleges. Time and number of characters vary according to the number of dances, songs, etc. The Womans Press. \$.35.

Spring, or The Queen of Youth—Edith Roeder Jacobs—100 or more characters in a dance pantomime showing the various seasons in review before Youth, who finally chooses Spring as queen. Careful directions for dances and costumes are given. The Womans Press. \$.35.

Spring and Summer Songs, A List of—as suggested program material for a spring celebration. National Recreation Association. Free.

Troubadours of Provence—Marion Holbrook. A May Day fragment for high school or college use based on the old Provencal custom of holding a tournament of song each May Day. National Recreation Association. \$.10.

Now, using the thumb and forefinger with a circular motion the eye positions are worked out toward the cheek bones, the brows and cheek bones are defined and the center of the mass of clay is worked out and up into the ridges of the nose. Still pulling the clay out from the mass, the ears are roughly modeled at the place designed for them and the mouth and chin shaped. The finer modeling of the mouth, ears and nostrils is done with the moist wooden tool and all excess clay is cut away with the same tool. As in the

case of the modeled fruit, straight lines and planes of the human head are made with straight forefinger and the rounded planes and lines with the curved thumb. The whole hand well moistened can be used in rounding large masses as in the case of the back of the head. Only practice and the use, the "feel" of clay in the fingers—will teach each modeler the fine points of the art. We learn by doing and modeling brings out the creator that is within everyone.

A model can be broken up and thrown back into the storage jar and sprinkled with water so that it will go back into the mass of clay. Water should not be permitted to stand on the clay in the jar, but it should be kept moist and airtight. A damp cloth over the clay, under the jar cover is an excellent method to control the amount of moisture.

The potter's craft is the art nearest allied to clay modeling and sculpture. The potter uses the same medium, clay, and molds vases, bowls, jars, dishes for use as well as decorative value.

Together the two—clay modeling and pottery, art and craft—are primary answers to the creative urge in human life. From the earliest time the potter thumping the wet clay was the symbol of the consciousness of the creator who molded a cosmos out of chaos. And what is generally true of the race can be traced in the individual who takes the unshapen clay and molds it to his will, achieving in the doing, serenity and peace of spirit.

A City-Wide Club for Girls

(Continued from page 22)

members in the Museum Amigos Club, according to the most recent check-up, 83 per cent were unemployed, 11 per cent attended school, and 6 per cent were working. During the two and a half years of its existence it is estimated that in the neighborhood of 2,000 young people have been members.

Sunday Hikers

(Continued from page 24)

before us again, but a different Kent in the early evening mist.

The guide book insisted upon hurrying us. It promised a difficult descent over St. John Ledges, which led perpendicularly to the River Road. We

left the lovely view and approached this threat with a "bring-on-this-fearful-thing" attitude. The first descent was easy, too easy. We spoke with scorn as we hastened through the Tanglewood Forest, which, overshadowed by the cliff, was fast growing dark. Imagine having to hurry through a forest with that name!

We had spoken too soon; the Ledges were before us. The guide book was modest in its description of their steepness. To make it a little more difficult the trail was buried in a foot of leaves, which we swept aside as best we could before we dared to take a step. We didn't descend; we slid. The manner was not always of our own choosing. One of my friends did a particularly expert nose dive, which was a combination slide, fall, roll and tackle. The total injury was one scraped arm. Just why a little blood should make us feel that the day was a success, I don't know, but it did.

Much to our surprise, we did reach the bottom. It is questionable which is more impressive: to feel yourself going down over the side of a cliff, or once down to look up at what you have done!

It was three miles back to Kent and Cherub (the car) by a grass-covered road which tags along beside the Housatonic. The sky in the west toward which we were walking changed its coloring for the night, and the river reflected and lengthened it.

Kent was in darkness when we reached it and the stars crowded each other to give us light. We walked the last few hundred rods up the state highway to the car silently. We were tired and hungry; the day had been good to us.

The Community Workshop in Decatur

(Continued from page 30)

hands. These men are encouraged to make needed articles for their homes. Much of the furniture in their homes comes to the shop to be re-conditioned.

The value of the shop to this group is inestimable. It helps the men keep their minds occupied and gives them training in the use of tools and in doing repair work in the home. They receive value in the articles made both in dollars and cents and in the satisfaction of brightening up a home with a new piece of furniture and being able to say, "I made it."

Your Summer Playground Program

- Before you plan your playground program for this summer be sure to send for a copy of "Planning Summer Playground Programs," the most practical and up-to-date publication available on this subject.
- The pamphlet contains a thoughtful discussion of the activities which comprise the playground program and the principles to be followed in planning for it. You will find exceedingly helpful the sample daily, weekly and summer schedules which are included.

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Last, but certainly not least, is the opportunity offered men and boys to take advantage of the training and equipment of the shop. This may range from instruction in bench work, model building or metal work to furniture making, boat building or more advanced craft work. Some young man may have some special design in mind but has no place to work it out. The workshop offers him this opportunity.

Now that the Community Workshop is under the full jurisdiction of the Community Recreation Association, efforts are being made to include everyone in the program whether he is employed or unemployed, on relief or self-supporting. The shop's big task is to offer the public instruction in the use of tools and materials and a place to put them to use. It is the community's workshop in every sense of the word!

The Recreational Background of Our Transient Boys

(Continued from page 34)

to playground groups. The fact that so few boys (eight only) had previously been members of settlement houses is probably accounted for by the

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fact that many of them came from rural communities or small towns where such neighborhood houses are not known.

A Few Conclusions

While comparatively few cases have been studied here, and even these must be weighed in the light of evidence given only by the boys themselves and not verified by a social agency, certain tentative conclusions can be drawn.

In the first place, it is readily seen that America's army of wandering boys is made up of lads with what might be termed normal recreational backgrounds. These young migrants have been active participants in athletics, in church groups, in musical organizations, in boys clubs, and in those other fields of group recreational activity which are the heritage of all American boys.

Secondly, and leading out of this point is the conclusion that recreational leaders in transient boy lodges and camps have normal material with which to work, and can shape their programs accordingly, bearing in mind that some of the experiences of the road may have driven from the boy's mind temporarily all thoughts of play and sport. When an adolescent has been kicked from one town to another, and has been jailed and beaten for no reason other than trying to get a job, or to obtain something to eat, baseball and scouting must of necessity take a back seat. Recreational leaders in the transient program must bear in mind, too, that "the boys will respond to a vigorous 'he-man' program, but are bored, listless, or generally contemptuous if they consider the recreation too childish for sturdy youths."²

Finally, the conclusion is evident that certain features of our recreational program as it has been administered in the past have not met the needs of these boys. Boys leave home because of a complication of economic, social, and personal factors, but leaders in the transient boy field are pretty generally agreed that a vital educational and recreational program would materially assist in keeping at home a great many lads who would otherwise drift onto the open road because of sheer boredom. An adequate leisure time program in each community, no matter how large or how small, would be a genuine contribution to stabilizing our youth before they reach that place where stabilization will have to take place in some more undesirable institutions.

² Robert S. Wilson and Dorothy B. de la Pole, *Group Treatment For Transients*, National Association for Travelers Aid and Transient Service, New York, 1935, page 99.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

More Zest for Life

By Donald A. Laird, Ph.D. Whittlesey House, McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., New York. \$2.50.

MORE and more books are being written on the satisfactions of life and how to secure them through a happy and worthwhile use of leisure. Dr. Laird has given us in this volume an analysis of the sources of happiness and discontent and has pointed the way to transforming a dissatisfied, half-hearted life into a zestful and useful one. And zest, he says, "is something we give to the world, not something the world pours over us. It is an inner condition of mental adjustment, an inner balance of emotions, motives, moods and ambitions."

101 Things for Girls to Do

By Lillie B. and Arthur C. Horth. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, Pa. \$2.00.

THE purpose of this "Review of Simple Crafts and Household Subjects," as the subtitle describes the book, is to encourage girls of various ages to find enjoyment in the use of their hands. Many of the articles illustrated and described are the simple beginnings of useful arts. They are intended to inspire those who read and follow out the instructions to greater effort and to give an incentive to experiment in other directions. It is to the adventurer in the field of creative work that this book makes an appeal.

Youth Action in the Use of Leisure Time

Published by the International Council of Religious Education, 203 North Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. \$15.

THIS booklet is designed to serve as a guide to action for young people and their leaders in the new united youth movement, "Christian Youth Building a New World," which is being developed cooperatively by Protestant Evangelical Forces of the United States and Canada through the International Council of Religious Education. The booklet first offers a bird's-eye view of the spare time problem, then suggests methods through which young people may organize and initiate a program. This is followed by definite suggestions for hobbies, nature study, hiking, camping, dramatics, games and sports, music and similar activities.

Play in Childhood

By Margaret Lowenfeld. Victor Gollancz, Ltd., London.

THE author, who is Psychological Director of the Institute of Child Psychology in London, has based many of the findings in her book on the records made of the play of the children attending the institute. Some of the information given is the result of a wide reading of published studies of children's play. In addition to case studies, historical theories of play are reviewed and its functions outlined.

Learn to Ski!

By Hermann Bautzmann. The Macmillan Company, New York. \$1.25.

THE great popularity of skiing makes this book a very timely publication. Mr. Bautzmann has given us a complete course in skiing instruction, not omitting suggestions on "how to fall right." And there are chapters on Equipment; Walking Uphill; The Downhill Run; Pole-Riding; Turns; Christianias and other turns, and all the various techniques which make skiing such a thrilling and breathtaking sport. The book is profusely illustrated.

News Almanac for Social Work 1936

Published by Community Chests and Councils, Inc., 155 East 44th Street, New York. \$50.

THIS unique almanac contains a compact list of dates, anniversaries and events of significance for the interpretation of social work. Essential facts about each date, authoritative sources of further information, and practical ways to use the occasion for newspaper stories and special events are given day by day. The value of the booklet lies not only in the specific facts given but in the possibility of using the facts as a springboard for the imagination and ingenuity of the reader.

Juvenile Delinquents in Public Institutions 1933

Prepared under the supervision of Dr. Leon E. Truesdell. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. \$10.

THIS report presents the results of the 1933 federal census of juvenile delinquents in public institutions. Almost fifty tables are given in presenting the facts covered in the study.

Game Craft

By H. D. Edgren and Day T. Eiswald. George Williams College, Chicago, Illinois. \$50.

HERE'S a timely booklet telling how to make games, how to play them and giving illustrations for 67 different games. It offers the joy of creation and the fun of playing games which can be made out of inexpensive materials. The games may be made from material ordinarily found around the home or institution.

Skits and Stunts

By W. Martin Butts. Published by Mr. Butts, at East Boston, Mass. \$60.

THERE are seven amusing skits in this booklet, a number of circus stunts and some stunt games. Plenty of material will be found for several entertaining evenings of fun with very little work involved since expression and pantomime, not settings and properties, determine the effectiveness of the skits.

Story Parade.

Published by Story Parade, Inc., 70 Fifth Avenue, New York. \$1.00 per year; \$.15 a copy.

January saw the launching of a new magazine for children known as *Story Parade*. It is designed to give children the best in stories, verse and plays by contemporary writers. In addition, there will be presented foreign and other material of value not easily accessible to young readers. The qualities sought in illustration and decoration are simplicity and artistic value. On the advisory board are such well known leaders as Katherine Lenroot, Chief of the Children's Bureau; Bess Goodykoontz, Assistant Commissioner of Education; Hughes Mearns, New York University, and Joseph Auslander.

Government By Merit.

By Lucius Wilmerding, Jr. McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York. \$3.00.

The Commission of Inquiry on Public Service Personnel which is responsible for this study was appointed at the close of 1933 by the Social Science Research Council with the approval of President Roosevelt. The Commission was created to inquire into and report early in 1935 upon the broad problem of personnel in the administrative, executive and technical services of national, state and local government. The work of the Commission falls into two parts: first, the collection and consideration of facts and opinions; second, the presentation to the American people of a report of findings and a program of constructive recommendations.

This monograph, dealing with the theory and practice of civil service and the methods by which offices of government may be filled with men of competence and character, is one of the special studies made by the Commission. Practical suggestions rather than technical are made for the proper classification, recruitment, salaries, promotion, tenure, pensions, employee relationships and administrative control of public service.

Guide to Motion Pictures.

Published by Community Chests and Councils, Inc., 155 East 44th Street, New York. \$.50.

This guide has been prepared for the use of social and civic agencies and contains both propaganda and educational pictures. Pictures are listed which will fit into the four major fields of social work—child welfare; family welfare; health, and character-building. Of special interest to recreation workers are the listings under the headings: "Recreation and Physical Education," "General Health and Sanitation," "Safety," "Nature Study," and "Holidays and Special Days."

Working with Tools.

By Harry J. Hobbs. Leisure League of America, New York. \$.25.

This, the latest of the series of the Leisure League of America—and there are twenty-five of these attractive booklets—suggests how to squeeze a workshop out of a home even if it is only a clothes closet or the drawers of a chest. It discusses the tools needed, their use and care, what to make, how to identify popular woods and how to finish wood. The home craftsman cannot afford to be without this practical aid.

The Merry Gentlemen of Japan.

By H. W. Reiter and Shepard Chartoc. Illustrated by Philip Gelb. The Bass Publishers, New York. \$1.75.

"The Mikado," immortal classic opera by Gilbert and Sullivan, has been for more than sixty years the joy of theater goers. In the adaptation presented in this book the different characters are introduced to children in story form. The original work has been closely followed and many of the lyrics have been reproduced. The beautiful illustrations of marionette tints, as well as the stories themselves, cannot fail to delight children.

A Romance Map of the Northern Gateway.

Compiled by C. Eleanor Hall in collaboration with Josephine W. Wickser. Published at 45 Spring Street, Port Henry, New York. \$.60 postpaid.

In this very attractive colored map, 18 by 24 inches in size, mere places and events have become centers of action in more than 140 pictures which dot the map. The territory covered includes that section of northeastern New York and Western Vermont adjacent to Lake Champlain, Lake George, the Champlain Canal, and the Hudson River, approximately 200 miles in length. In a region noted for its beauty and traditions, the incidents portrayed have been selected from a wealth of material. It would be difficult to think of a more delightful way of studying geography and history than this map offers.

Youth Movements Here and Abroad.

(Bulletin Number 135, Russell Sage Foundation Library.) Compiled by Marguerita P. Williams, Russell Sage Foundation, 130 East 22nd Street, New York. \$.20.

This selected bibliography of articles on youth movements here and abroad, with a directory of leading American movements which gives a brief digest of the objectives and activities of each, comes as a timely and valuable contribution. All recreation workers should have it.

Guide to the Appalachian Trail in Maine.

Publication No. 4. The Appalachian Trail Conference. 901 Union Trust Building, Washington, D. C. \$1.00.

To the hikers to whom following the trail has its own fascination this publication will supply detailed trail data for the now completed 224 miles of Appalachian trail in Maine. Though the trail leads through an utter wilderness, public accommodations in the form of sporting camps are available at intervals of a moderate day's travel. Maps for the completed trail are included in the guide book which also gives definite information on the various trail sections and data on accommodations, public camp sites and costs.

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Can You Answer These Questions?

- How has one city found it possible to safeguard large open air dances and make them successful? What rules is it important to put into effect?

See page 3

- Portable theaters have been in effect for years in some cities, but now come the traveling marionette show, the traveling troupe and the puppet trailer. Describe the traveling theater in one large city. How may a puppet trailer be constructed?

See pages 4, 11 and 12

- Outline a plan of cooperation between a recreation department and a board of education which makes it possible for 600 boys to enjoy a summer crafts program.

See page 6

- List six outstanding activities conducted last summer on the playgrounds of America. Mention a novel contest in a middle western city. Describe a model aircraft program in a California city. How may a central theme be brought to carry through all the activities of a summer program? Cite an example.

See pages 7-10

- What are some of the activities which may be woven in a Youth Week program? When will Boys' and Girls' Week be held this year?

See pages 13-14

- Describe ten activities for an Easter party. What is the derivation of the word "Easter"?

See pages 15-16

- In what lies the great appeal of play as a creative medium? Describe some of the processes involved in making pottery.

See pages 17-18

- Describe the organization of a city-wide club for girls from six to twenty-five years of age; of a social club connected with a museum.

See pages 21-22

- Outline the procedure for organizing a hobby show in connection with a settlement. What are some of the classifications of exhibits which can be made? How may the exhibits be shown to the best advantage?

See pages 25-27

- Suggest ways in which a city may use salvaged materials for facilities and equipment. Describe briefly a golf club house which has been constructed largely from old materials.

See pages 31-32

- A study of 347 transient boys has shown many of them to have had recreational backgrounds. In what forms of leisure time activity have they for the most part participated? What general conclusions may be drawn from the study?

See pages 33-34

More Zest for Life

ZEST is something we give the world, not something the world pours over us. It is an inner condition of mental adjustment, made difficult at times, to be sure, by the pressure of the world's obligations upon us, but still an inner balance of emotions, motives, moods and ambitions. Once we have it, neither ill health nor misfortune can rob us of its steadying power, nor can age or adversity destroy this inner complacency.

Happiness is something that each has to find for himself. Others cannot impose happiness upon us, and we cannot lead others to felicity by having them do as we do. Truly, here is a serious case of live and let live, always recognizing that those who strive hardest for it are least likely to find it. Happiness comes to people; they cannot catch up with it. That elusive thing grows on one gradually; it does not suddenly appear. It is not the result of one thing; it comes from many things. Once real happiness does come, we are likely never to lose it. The path one person follows to achieve it may lead another to despair. . . .

Happiness is a mental state, always remember, an inner condition of balance. It depends almost solely upon the individual's estimation of what things are worth while and what he or she would like. Thus it is that the person's philosophy of life, rather than his friends or enemies, determines whether he is happy or not. Happiness must come from inside; it is not given us by our environment.

Donald A. Laird in More Zest for Life

Published by McGraw-Hill Book Company